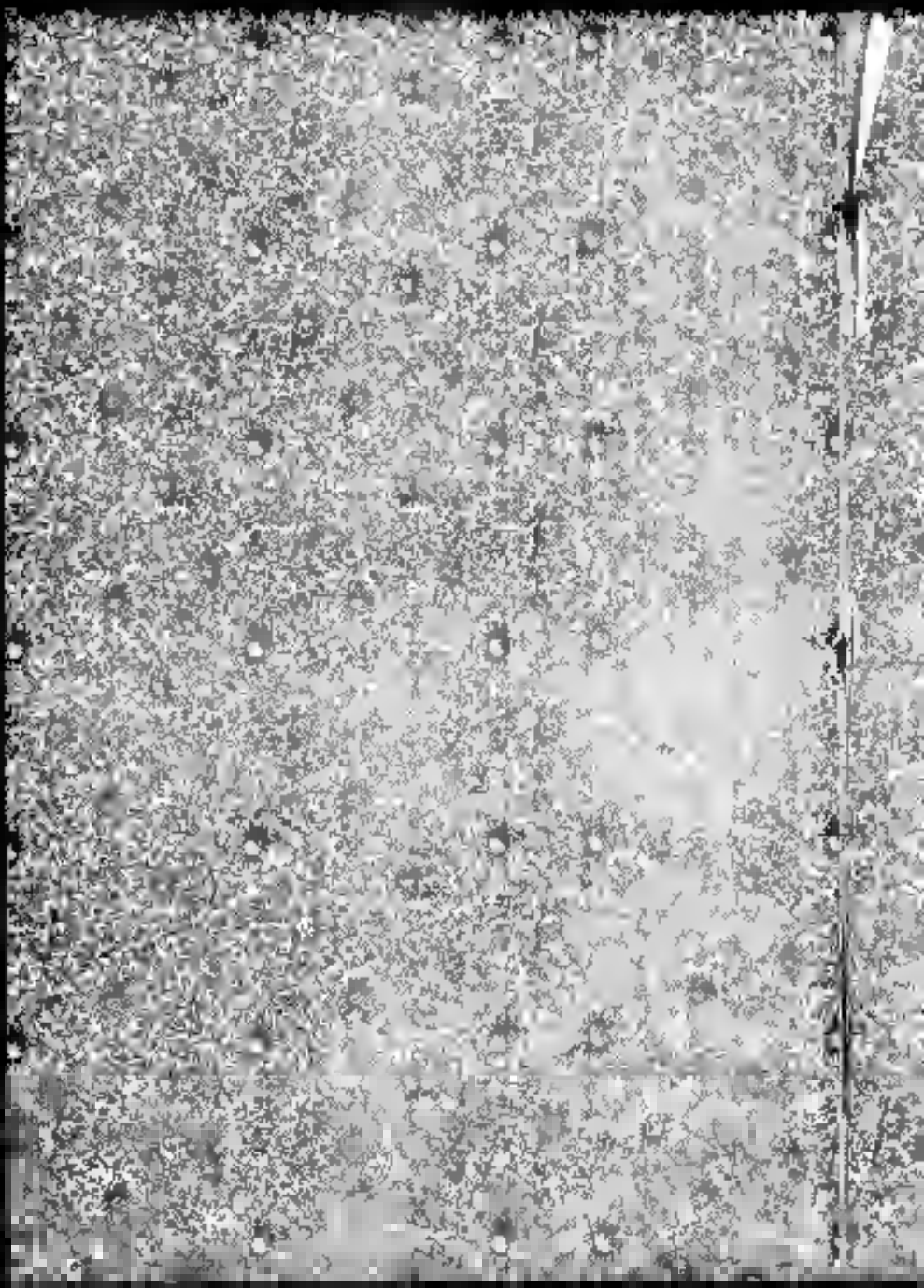
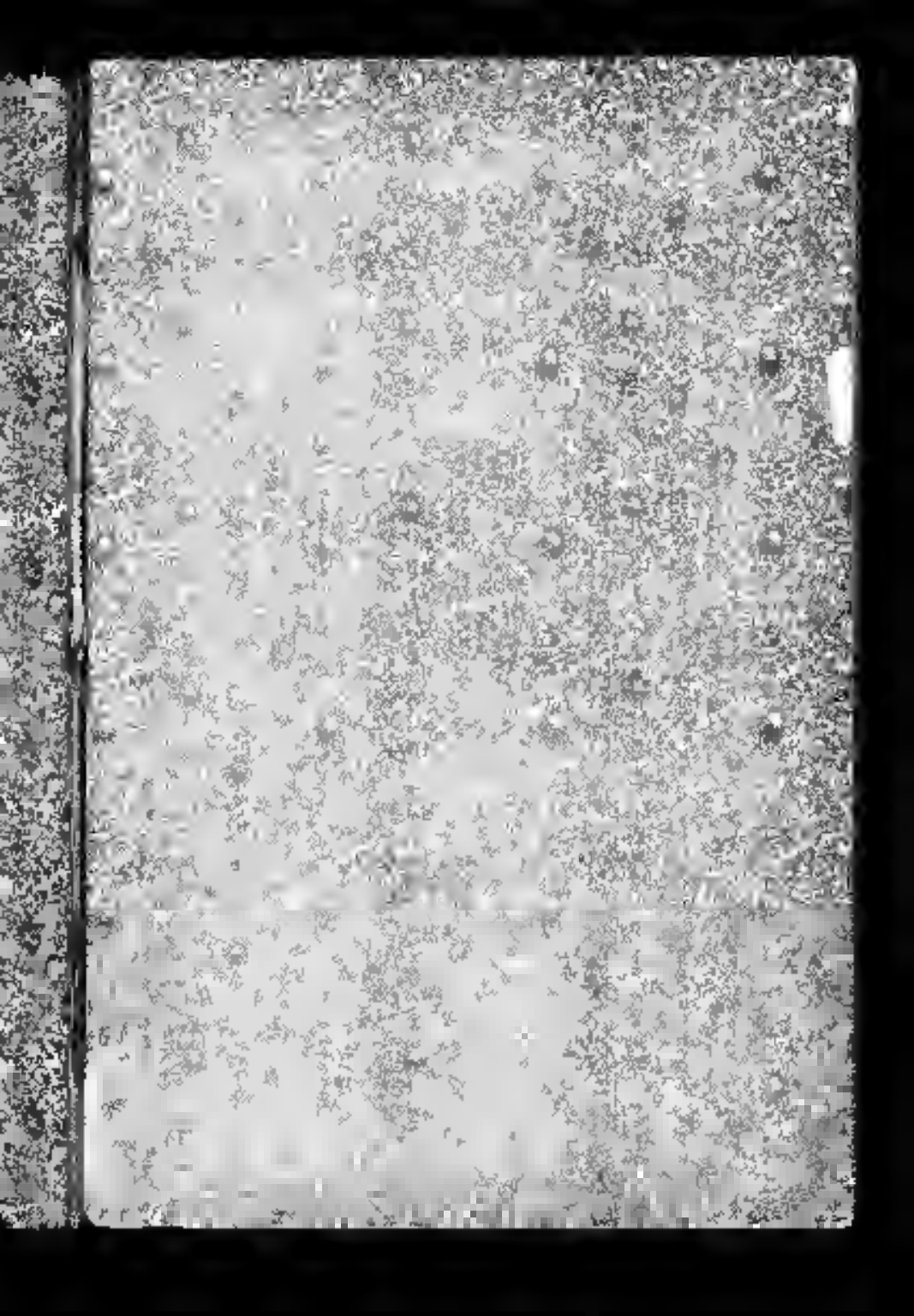
Compiled by
A. J. JOHNSTON





LAMBTON COUNTY
NAMES AND PLACES

COMPILED BY
A J JOHNSTON

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PUBLISHED BY
LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL
1930

INTRODUCTORY

IN submitting this history of the names and places in Lambton County it would be unfair to not place the credit for the original idea of recording and perpetuating the story of Lambton County where it belongs.

Early in the year of 1930 the late Denis Fraser McWatt, the then Senior Judge of Lambton County had gathered much of the data of the records in this book contained, but before he had an opportunity of compiling it, he was called by death. Since that time the writer has gradually gathered together the information on the remaining places, and is now giving it to the public for what it is worth.

The reader will appreciate the difficulty of getting authentic data regarding many places, and if in some instances it differs from the knowledge you already have, you will know that reports of our correspondents vary somewhat, and in each case the most strongly supported report has been accepted.

The main object of these efforts is to preserve the story of the names and places in Lambton County, many of which places have even now ceased to exist and in a few years, as the present residents pass away will be entirely forgotten.

The research work involved in securing the required information for this history has been extremely interesting and while it has been somewhat imperfectly compiled yet we trust it will recall many pleasant memories to the older people, and be a source of information to the rising generation.

A. J. JOHNSTON

Sheriff's Office
Sarnia, April 20th 1931.

Lambton County Names and Places

IT will be found by perusing the pages of this book that it narrates the formative period of Lambton County and a short history of its names and places, and in order that the reader may know the present condition of the county and places hereinafter mentioned we hereby give its boundaries and something of their history.

Lambton County is situated along the extreme south western shore line of Lake Huron, the lake in fact forms its entire northern and northwesterly boundary on the east lies the county of Middlesex on the south the County of Kent, with the exception of the south westerly portion which is bounded by the Snyearte River its entire western boundary being the St. Clair River.

Champlain saw Lake Huron in the first time in 1617 and he called the lake Mar Douce or sweet sea, referring to the waters not being salt. The old Indian name of Lake Huron was Karegnondi. This name was given by the Hurons to the lake. The Iroquois name was Cassitara later on some of the French maps called the lake, Lake Orleans and later still the name as given in French Maps as Lake Michigan or Huron and afterwards the maps differentiate lake Michigan and Huron and show them as seperate lakes.

Middlesex, the eastern boundary was named after Middlesex England. Kent County on the south was named after the Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria.

Snyearte is a corruption of Chenail-e-Carte or the channel. This name appears in very early maps and no doubt was given by some of the early French explorers. The Snyearte separates Lambton County and Walpole Island and as it nears Wallaceburg joins the Sydenham river eventually flowing into Lake St. Clair.

River St. Clair the western boundary, together with Lake St. Clair were so named by LaSalle and Hennepin in 1678 when they sailed northward over these waters. They crossed Lake St. Clair on St. Clare's day and for that reason named the lake and river. It was afterwards changed to St. Clair in common usage. The Indian name of Lake St. Clair was "Otl Kita" and the Indian name of St. Clair River was "Ottawinatippi."

Lambton County

THE territory now called by the name of The County of Lambton, was originally part of The District of Hesse, which was bounded, according to the Proclamation of his Excellency the Governor-General, Guy Lord Dorchester, dated 24th July, 1788, in the twenty eighth year of the reign of His Majesty, George III as follows,

"The District of Hesse, which is to comprehend all the residue of our said Province to the Western or Inland parts thereof of the entire breadth thereof from the Southerly to the Northerly boundaries of the same."

As the District of Nassau was the next District to Hesse to the East and extended "so far Westerly as to a North and South line intersecting the extreme projection of Long Point into the Lake Erie on the Northerly side of said Lake Erie," the District of Hesse took in all the rest of the lands to the West of Long Point.

By 31 George III. (Imperial) Chapter 31 (1791) section 14, the Lieutenant-Governor, in the absence of the Governor-General, received power to divide the Province into Counties or Districts. In pursuance of this Act, his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, Colonel John Graves Simcoe, by proclamation dated 16th July, 1792, divided the Province of Upper Canada into nineteen Counties, namely: Glengarry, Stormont, Dundas, Grenville, Leeds, Frontenac, Ontario, Addington, Lennox, Prince Edward, Hastings, Northumberland, Durham, York, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, Kent, the nineteenth being described by the name of The County of Kent which County is to comprehend all the Country (not being Territories of the Indians) not already included in the several Counties hereinbefore described, extending Northward to the boundary line of Hudson's Bay including all the territory to the Westward and Southward of the said line to the utmost extent of the country commonly called or known by the name of Canada.

The County of Essex was the adjoining County to Kent, and its Westerly boundary is described in Governor Simcoe's Proclamation as bounded "on the west by the River Detroit to Maidenville's Mill, from thence by a line running parallel to the River Detroit and Lake St. Clair at the distance of four miles until it meets the River La Tranche or Thames, and thence up the said River to the North-west boundary of the County of Suffolk."

All the territory therefore now known as the County of Lambton, was then part of the County of Kent, which, by Proclamation, was to be represented by two members in the Legislative Assembly of Canada but by the Redistribution Act (Upper Canada) 40 George III Chapter 3 passed 4th July 1800, the County of Kent was to be represented by one member only

By 32 George III (Upper Canada) Chapter 8 section 5, passed 15th October 1792, the name of the District was changed, and thereafter it was called The Western District.

By 38 George III. Chapter 5, (1798) assented to 1st January 1800, Essex and Kent, together with so much of the Province as is not included within any other District thereof, were formed into the Western District."

By 2 George IV Chapter 3 Section 12, passed 14th April 1821, (being the first Session in that year) "The following NEW Townships in the Western District were attached to the County of Kent, namely; the Townships of Zone, Dawn, Sombra and Saint Clair" The last named Township was changed to Sarnia, probably in Sir John Colborne's time 1828 as that was the Roman name of the Island of Guernsey, with which Sir John was identified

By 4 William IV., Chapter 55 (1834) assented to 5th May 1836, which recited that a certain tract of land situate in the Western District * * * had been lately surveyed and laid off into Townships, the Townships of Moore and Sarnia (formerly St. Clair), Plympton, Euphemia, Warwick, Brooke and Bosanquet, were attached to and formed part of the County of Kent, in the Western District.

The Revised Statutes of 1841 contain no mention of Lambton and reprint the Act of 1821, 2 George IV Chapter 3, as being in full force.

By 4 and 5 Victoria, Chapter 10 (1841) which went into operation 1st January 1842, a District Council for the Western District was formed and it met for the first time, at Sandwich on 11th February 1842, representatives being present from Essex and Kent, in which latter County as we have seen the territory now known as Lambton County then formed a part.

By 12 and 13 Victoria Chapter 39 assented to 9th July 1849 the County of Kent ceased to be part of the Western District and became known as the District of Kent.

By 12 Victoria Chapter 78, assented to 30th May 1849 Districts were abolished and by section 30, Kent and Lambton were formed as provisional Counties, and by section 31 as soon as the Court House and Gaol then "in the course of being erected, shall have been completed, the Governor of the Province may issue a Proclamation dissolving the union between the United Counties of Kent and Lambton and the County of Essex, and from thenceforth the said United Counties of Kent and Lambton shall form a union of Counties" This is the first time the name "Lambton" as a County appears officially

Under this Act certain Counties were to remain united until the Junior County should have a population of not less than fifteen thousand souls (section 10) in which case it became entitled to a separate establishment of Court and County institutions. Kent and Lambton were so united as we have seen Lambton being the Junior County but from its geographical position it was deemed expedient to make provision for its separation, before it had attain-

ed the population required by law to entitle it to sever the judicial union between it and the County of Kent.

By 12 Victoria, Chapter 78 assented to May 30th 1849 the County of Lambton was declared to include the Townships of Enniskillen, Dawn, Sombra and Warwick and were united with Kent for the purpose of representation in the Legislative Assembly of Canada and a union of Counties made between Kent, Lambton and Essex.

The County of Kent withdrew in 1851 and Essex and Lambton were then known as "The United Counties of Essex and Lambton" the municipal Capital being at Sandwich, now the County seat of the County of Essex.

In 1914 the Dominion Archivist, Dr. Doughty published the Constitutional History of Canada from 1791 to 1818, in which there is a map of Upper Canada drawn by W. Chewett, D. P. surveyor by order of His Excellency John Graves Simcoe the Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada which shows the County of Kent as referred to in the Proclamation of 1792. It extended from the mouth of the Detroit River Northeastwards to the Westerly boundary of the County of Hastings, on the Trent River and North as far as the North Pole seemingly. It also took in what are now Michigan and Illinois, as well as Lakes Michigan and Superior and even went West of that as far as Canada then extended. Certainly the County of Kent was the largest County in Canada in those days.

The County of Suffolk is now part of the Counties of Kent and Elgin.

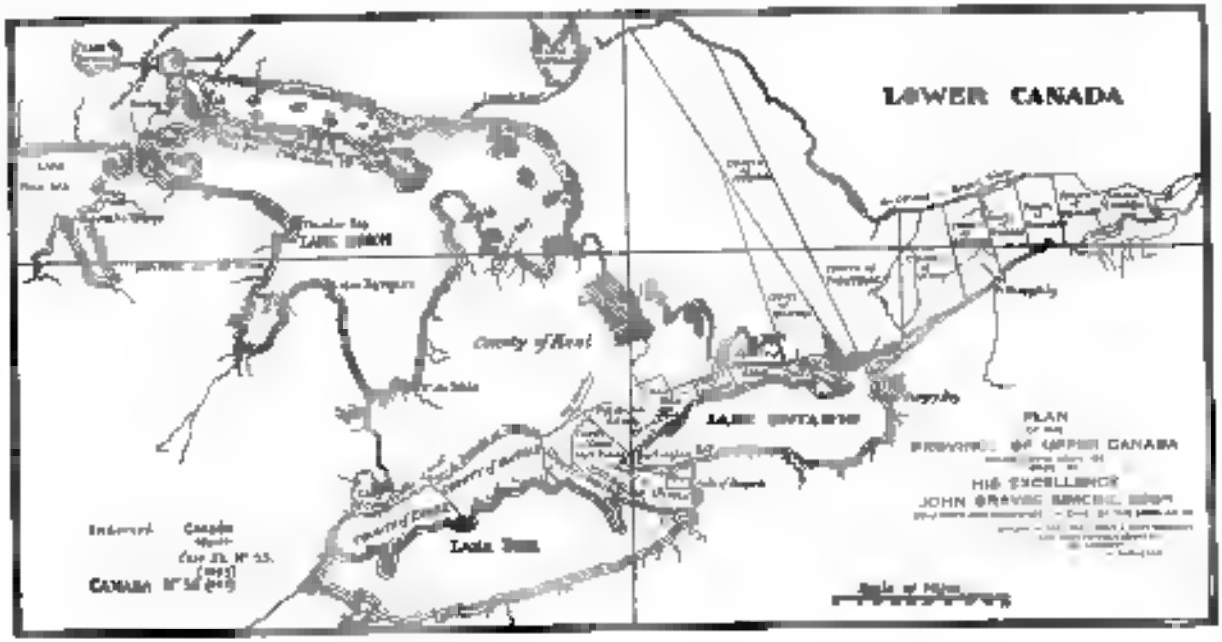
A reproduction of this very interesting map on a small scale will be found contained herein.

The "County of Lambton" first appears in 12 Victoria, Chapter 78 (1849) sections 30 and 31 and was then first officially recognized by the Legislature. Prior to that the territory forming what is now the County of Lambton was included in Kent County. There is nothing to show that it was officially recognized, before that year. In the Minutes of the District Council (the Western District) composed of the Counties of Kent and Essex from 1842 to 1849 the name "Lambton" does not appear.

In 1841 there were petitions presented asking that the Northern Townships of Kent be erected into a separate District and a Bill was reported but no effective action was taken by the Legislature.

Other petitions were presented to the same effect in 1844-45, and also in 1846 and 1847 but no action was taken thereon evidently except on those presented in January 1845 by which the petitioners desired the new District to be known as "Moore" and a Bill to give effect to this was brought in which reached a second reading and then was given the six months hoist.

In March, 1848 another petition was presented and according to the Journals of the House for that year the petitioners were H.


LOWER CANADA
LAKE ERIE
County of Kent
LAKE ONTARIO
Lake Erie
PLAN
HIS EXCELLENCY

tones and others of Enniskillen Township, and others from Township in the Western District praying that a new District be set apart with Port Sarnia as the District Town

In 1850 petitions were presented from the Townships of Enniskillen, Dawn Brooke and Euphemia praying that the Act establishing the County (clearly 12 Victoria, Chapter 79 of 1849) be amended so as to place the County town in Enniskillen and a counter petition from Port Sarnia was also presented that the prayer of the petition be not granted but that the County Town be located in Port Sarnia which latter evidently had its effect

The Librarian of the Legislative Assembly Toronto, Mr Avern Pardoe gives a very feasible reason why the name Lambton County like Topsy 'growed' instead of being officially born in the usual way

Under the Union Act of 1840 each Province (Upper and Lower Canada) had to have an equal number of members, and each had sixty-five in the Legislative Assembly The Canadian Parliament did not possess the power to alter this except by increasing the number in both Provinces Hence the Representation by Population agitation as the population of Upper Canada at first less than that of Lower Canada, outgrew the latter

One of the consequences of this state of affairs, was that a new County could not be formed in the rapidly growing west of the Province of Upper Canada, until a seat could be established in the slowly growing Eastern Province.

It is quite likely that the formation of Lambton County had been decided upon, and to jump unofficially determined, but that the step could not go into effect until a seat in the East had been arranged

There are on record instances, in which there have been sharp rivalries between different localities, for the name of the new Governor

That name furnishes an easy reference to the date of the formation of a County or other municipality in the case of "Lambton It excludes everything before 1838 the year Earl Durham was Governor

Mr Pardoe further points out, that while there is nothing to show that Lambton was recognized officially till 1849 between 1839 and 1849 there are facts which show that it was not. The Act forbidding spearing of fish 6 Victoria Chapter 18, (1843), refers to, among others the Counties of Essex and Kent if there had been a Lambton County it would certainly have applied to it And also that Moore" was suggested by petition in 1845.

While however there is nothing prior to 1849 on the subject, Chapter 11 of that year may inferentially bear on it

That Act recites that whereas the Union Act 1840, required Townships to be erected by Proclamation, the erection of Townships in Upper Canada had been done according to the previous Act method, without any Proclamation presumably under 31 George

III. (Imperial) 1791, second 14, which authorized the Lieutenant Governor in Council to divide the Province into Counties or Districts.

This power being Imperial legislation could not be interfered with except by the Imperial Parliament and as they continued to act under the old powers with respect to Townships they probably continued to do so as to Counties also. Besides which the publication of Orders-in-Council was in these days more honored in the breach than in the observance" being exceedingly spasmodic and capricious.

The minutes of the Municipal Council of the Western District were not kept from the first meeting held on the 11th February 1842, until October 1846. Printed minutes are in existance from the latter date and on a perusal of the volume containing the minutes from October 1846 to the end of 1849 the name 'Lambton' is not mentioned in any part of it.

Many attempts were made to have the District divided(or a new District formed) containing the Northern Townships of the County of Kent, between 1841 and 1849 but no name seems to have been given to it. I think it is quite evident the petitions did not contain a name subsequent to 1841 except in 1846 when 'Moore' was proposed but not accepted, and until the County of Lambton was mentioned in 12 Victoria, Chapters 78 and 79, passed in 1849 it does not appear. No Order-in-Council has been found as yet, but as the Indices are wanting, we cannot so far find any Order-in-Council calling the territory by the name County of Lambton, if such were ever passed.

The following are extracted from the minutes of the Western District Council.

On the 4th October 1846 Mr Larwill, who was the representative from Raleigh Township in the County of Kent, gave notice of a petition on Friday next from the inhabitants of Kent relative to a division of the District. That was on the first day of the session. On the 9th October the fourth day, he asked leave to defer his petition on the subject of a division of the District. On October 10th he presented a petition praying a division of the District, which was adopted but the petition does not appear in the minutes.

On the 2nd February 1847 the first day of the session Mr Durand who was the representative from Sarnia Township, seconded by Mr Girty the representative from Gosfield Township in the County of Essex moved that Messrs Durand Hyde Johnston and Larwill Hyde being the representatives from Plympton and Johnston from Sombra, be appointed a committee to draft a petition to the Legislature to divide the County of Kent into two Districts.

On the 12th October 1847 Mr Hyde moved seconded by Mr Fisher representative from Moore and Euphemia, that the Committee appointed last session to draft a petition to the Legislature to divide the County of Kent into two Districts, have leave to act

this session Later in the day Mr Hyde moved seconded by Mr Johnston that the Committee appointed in the February session, to draft a petition to the Legislature to make the County of Kent into two Districts, be allowed to make their report at the next session of the Council and these were carried

On the 4th February 1848, Mr Durand, of the committee to draft a petition to the Legislature for the formation of the ten townships of the County of Kent into a new District presented the draft of a petition

Mr Hyde moved, seconded by Mr McLeod, representative from Malden in Essex County that the draft of petition presented by Mr Durand be adopted

Mr Larwill moved in amendment, seconded by Mr Thompson that the petition be not adopted. (They were evidently not well up in Parliamentary procedure, as the amendment was simply a negative and should not have been allowed) The amendment being put, the HOUSE (so called in the minutes) was counted and the votes for and against the amendment were as follows —For the amendment—Allan Anderdon) Crow (Chatham) Duck (Howard) Hutchmington Romney) Johnston (Sombra) Larwill (Raleigh) Mitchell (Dover) Ruddle (Deputy Reeve Howard) Simpson (Tilbury East) James Smith (Dawn) Thompson (Harwich) and Young (Deputy Reeve, Harwich)—12. Against t—Messrs Baby (Deputy Reeve, Sandwich) Brown (Maidstone) Campbell (Warwick) Charron (Rochester), Desjardines (Tilbury West) Durand (Sarnia) Fisher (Moore and Enniskillen) Girty (Confield) Geary (Orford) Hyde (Plympton) Ketchum (Rosanquet) Mallot (Mersea) McLeod (Deputy Reeve Malden) and Wright (Colchester) —16

However the members in opposition got in their fine work later On the fifth day afterwards, the 9th February when all but one of those in favor were away Mr Larwill moved seconded by Mr Thompson, ha the resolution requiring the District Clerk to present a petition to the House of Assembly praying for re-division of the District of Kent, be and the same is hereby rescinded which carried.

The twelve who were there on the fourth and voted that the petition be not adopted, were present and voted The only one in opposition present was Mr Hyde the other fourteen being absent.

On 6th October 1849 the House went into committee of the whole upon petitions from Plympton, Sarnia and Warwick and on the motion of Mr James Smith, representative from Dawn seconded by Mr Duck representative from Howard in Kent County the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved that this Council are of opinion that the present Act of the Provincial Parliament setting off the new District of Kent should be so amended that the ten Northern Townships consisting of Warwick Rosanquet Enniskillen Plympton Sarnia, Moore Enniskillen Sombra, Zone and Dawn, should constitute a New District

or such other equitable division as the House may see fit so soon as they shall have a population of 7,000 and consider themselves competent to defray the expenses of a New District; at which time the District of Kent shall repay to said Northern Townships such sum or sums of money as they shall have contributed towards the erection of the public buildings in the District in Kent and that the site for the public buildings in the New District, to be composed of said Northern Townships, shall be in the Township of Enniskillen, and selected by the Councillors of said Townships: and that a committee be appointed to draft a petition to the Legislature in accordance with this Resolution.

Mr. Fisher then moved, seconded by Mr. James Smith, that Messrs. Duck, Mitchell, Hyde, Fisher and Smith be a committee to draft the said petition, which was carried.

On the 7th October, Mr. James Smith, chairman of the committee to draft a petition to the Legislature, in accordance with the resolution of yesterday, concerning the ten Northern Townships, presented the following draft of a petition, which was adopted:

TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE PROVINCE OF CANADA IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

The Petition of the District Council of the Western District, in Council assembled.

HUMBLY SHEWETH:

That the present Act of the Provincial Parliament, setting aside the New District of Kent, ought, in the opinion of this Council, to be amended by setting apart the ten Northern Townships of said District viz. Sombra Dawn and Zone (or such other equitable division as your Honourable House may deem fit) which would constitute a New District, as soon as the population shall amount to 7,000, and they shall consider themselves able to defray the expenses of a New District at which time the District of Kent, should repay to the aforesaid Townships such sums of money as they may have contributed towards the erection of the public buildings in the District of Kent. They are also of opinion that the site of the public buildings for the proposed New District should be in the Township of Enniskillen and selected by the Councillors of the above named ten Townships. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the above-mentioned Act may be amended in conformity with the prayer of this petition.

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, etc.

On the 28th day of February 1852 a Provisional County was authorized, by order of the Governor-in-Council and on the 15th day of April 1852, the first meeting of the Provisional Council of the County of Lambton was held at Port Sarnia, now Sarnia, Thomas Fisher of Moore, being elected Provisional Warden. It had not yet the full Status of a County Council, as the union with Essex still subsisted.

On the 30th September 1853, the union between Essex and Lambton was dissolved by order of the Administrator-in-Council, and on the 24th day of October, 1853, the first meeting of the County Council of the County of Lambton took place at Port Sarnia, now Sarnia, and from the 30th day of September 1853 the County had the full status of a County Council.

From the 15th day of April, 1853, to October 24th 1853, the Warden was called Provisional Warden Mr Thomas Fisher being the first to occupy that position during the year 1852. He was succeeded by Mr Henry Glass who was elected Provisional Warden in January 1853, but having been unseated, or having resigned, it is not clear which, his successful opponent in Sarnia Township, Mr Archibald Young was elected Provisional Warden in June 1853, and held that office until 24th October 1853 and from that date, until the election of his successor in January 1854 held the office of Warden under the Act 18 and 14 Victoria (1850) Chapter 64, Section 12. He was succeeded in January 1854 by his former opponent, Mr Henry Glass.

The partial municipal independence, therefore, of Lambton dates from the year 1852, when it withdrew from its connection with Essex for except County Council purposes, and was formed into a Provisional County. Its full independence dates from 30th September 1853 when it became a complete County.

By 16 Victoria, Chapter 152 (1853) the County of Lambton was formed into an electoral division (up to this time it was joined to Kent for Parliamentary purposes) to take effect after the end of the then present Provincial Parliament, which came into force at the general elections held in 1854.

Parliamentary Representatives

IT is only when one delves into the history of the County that it is discovered what a prominent place her sons and her representatives have held not only locally but in provincial affairs. Space forbids us (neither is it the aim of this book) to carry Biographical sketches, but it is questionable if there is any other county in the Dominion that can show such a record especially one that has had as representatives or an official, two Prime Ministers of Canada, one prime minister of the Province of Ontario, and several Cabinet Ministers.

The following is a list of Lambton's Representatives in the Dominion Parliament and Legislative Assembly including the period when Lambton was united with Kent.

Legislative Council

Hon. George Jervis Goodhue 1842-1847
Hon. Malcolm Cameron 1849-1863.
Hon. Alexander Vidal 1863-1887

Legislative Assembly

Hon. Malcolm Cameron, 1848-1854-1858-1860.
*Hon. George Brown 1851-1857
Hope Fleming Mackenzie 1854-1871
*Hon. Alexander Mackenzie 1861-1867
*Became Prime Minister of Canada.

House of Commons

FOR COUNTY

Hon. Alexander Mackenzie

WEST RIDING

Hon. James Frederick Lister Q.C., 1882-1887.
Dr. Thomas G. Johnston 1887-1905.
Frederick Forsyth Pardee K.C. 1905-1921
Richard Vryling LaSeure 1921

EAST RIDING

John H. Fairbank 1882-1887
George Monce 1887-1896
John Fraser 1896-1900.
Olivus Simmons 1900-1908
Joseph E. Armstrong 1904-1921
Bert Fancher 1921

Legislative Assembly—Ontario

FOR COUNTY

Hon. Timothy Blair Pardee Q. C. 1867-1875

WEST LAMBTON

xHon. Timothy Blair Pardee, Q. C. 1875-1889
Charles Mackenzie 1890-1894
Alfred T. Gyrd 1894-1898.
Frederick Forsyth Pardee K. C., 1898-1902.
xHon. William John Hanna, K. C. 1902-1918.
Jonah Musselman Webster 1919-1923.
Wilfrid Smith Hurley 1923-
xOccupied position of Cabinet Ministers.

EAST LAMBTON

Peter Graham, 1875-1890.
Hugh Mackenzie, 1890-1893
Peter D. McCallum 1893-1898.
Henry John Pettypiece 1898-1905
Hugh Montgomery 1905-1908
Robert John McCormick 1908-1914.
Dr. John Burton Martyn, 1914-1919
Leslie Oke, 1919

Senators

Hon. Alexander Vidal, 1872-1906.
xHon. George William Ross 1907-1914.
Hon. Frederick Forsythe Pardee, 1922-
xPremier Minister of Ontario.

Names and Places

ABERARDER

This little village is located on Lot 8, Con 10, Township of Plympton, being a station on the Canadian National Railway twenty miles from Sarnia and five from Camlachie It was settled in 1866 by Alex. Hamilton The first post office was established there in 1866 with D McBeath as first postmaster It was so called after Aberarder in Scotland It no longer operates as a post office, being closed with the coming of rural mail delivery.

ABERFELDY

A post office situated on Townline of Brooke and Euphemia Townships, more correctly on lot 34, concession 6, Euphemia. It was so named by Wm. Armstrong, for many years clerk of Euphemia Township, after a place in Scotland John Grant was the first postmaster It is one of the few rural post offices still operating.

ALVINSTON

A village situate on the Chicago Southern Railway, or what is now known as the Michigan Central Railway. It is distant about 35 miles from Sarnia and about 10 miles almost due south from Watford and is in the Township of Brooke. It has a population of some 800 souls and is pleasantly situated in the centre of a fine agricultural district, peopled by exceedingly thrifty families.

The history of Alvinston dates back to a period prior to 1859, when one Archibald Gardiner, uncle of the Gardiner Brothers, Hardware Merchants, of Sarnia, established a saw mill on the east side of Bear Creek, operating it until 1859 when the Mormon migration he went to Nauvoo Illinois At this time the place was known as Gardiner's Mill. Later on mills were built on the west side of the river and operated by a Mr J W Brennan and the place for some time was called Brennan's Mills Following this period, the site's village was named Alvinston The best information that can be obtained is that it was so named after a village on the Isle of Wight, called Alverstone Just why it was changed to Alvinston is not apparent. In its early days Alvinston was only a postal village on the travelled postal road which ran from Watford to Florence, and its mail service was supplied from this source.

Alvinston still remains a thriving village with well kept business places comfortable homes and fine churches.

ARKONA

This history of the settlement of Arkona dates from 1831 During that year Asa Townsend located on a tract of three hundred and ninety acres of land which he obtained from the Government

As early as 1868 the territory hereabout had become so thickly settled as to assume somewhat the appearance of a village In 1876 it was created a village.

It is one of the most pleasantly situated villages in Lambton County, it is close to the Aux Sauble River and the beautiful spot known as Rock Glen, which is later described in this booklet.

Prior to 1880 it was known as Eastman's Corners About this date an agitation arose to have the name changed, (it now being on the proposed line of the G. T. R.) A public meeting was called, and from many suggested names, Arkona was selected If our information is correct, it was named after Akron, Ohio, but the party suggesting the name spelled it A-r-k-o-n-a, and when the proper spelling was discovered the people preferred the name as given, Arkona. The first postmaster was Joseph Hilborn, and the first post office opened in 1851. While not situated on the railroad, (the first survey being changed to run some 6 miles north), it is a very thriving village, surrounded as it is by a good farming and fruit country

ATKEN

Rural post office opened at Lot 34, Con. 3 Euphemia, in 1897 So named after the first postmaster Richard Atkin It passed with the coming of rural mail delivery.

AUGHRIM

A rural post office, first opened at what was known as Lower Aughrim, in the Township of Euphemia The first postmaster was Andrew Bell, and was named after Aughrim in Ireland The post office was later removed to the home of John [illegible] upon of the Township of Brooke which lay further north As a post office it passed out with the opening of the Aberfeldy office At Lower Aughrim the Anglican Church alone remains to claim the name

AUX SAUBLES

The name of the river bounding the north eastern portion of Lambton County and flowing into Lake Huron at Grand Bend. The name means "The River of Sands. The scenery along the banks of this river at some points is very picturesque and at no place more so than around Arkona.

AVONBOY

A post office situated on Lot 16 Con. 14 Sombra Township Peter Grant was first postmaster and the office bore its name from the farm on which Mr Grant was born in Invernessshire Scotland It also ceased to operate with the introduction of rural mail delivery

BABY'S POINT

The extreme south westerly portion of the Township of Sombra, so named after the Baby family who early settled there.

BEAVER MEADOW

A post office opened in 1900 at the head of South Creek, Lot 25 Con. 1 Township of Dawn so named by Wm. Neubitt from the beaver dams built there. First postmaster Delbert Young. It no longer operates as a post office.

BEECHER

Situated on the north branch of the Sydenham River, Lot 18, Concession 7, Township of Sombra. First opened as a post office about 1885 and named by the Postal Department after Henry C. R. Beecher a gentleman who owned considerable land within County.

A store, the Orange Hall and Anglican Church today comprise the village. It is still operated as a post office, having two rural routes and distribution. Beecher's mail service is delivered from Wallaceburg.

BENTPATH

A post office opened on Lot 21 Con. 4 Township of Dawn about 1886 named after a path in Scotland. John McLachlan was the first postmaster.

BICKFORD

A post office opened at Watson Station on the Pere Marquette Railway named after M. F. O. Bickford, one of the officials of the old Erie & Huron Railway. The Postal Department declining the name of Watson there being another post office bearing that name in Canada.

BIENTAM

A post office situate Lot 19 Con. 8, N. E. R. Township of Warwick, supposed to be named after a small place in Scotland. A Gaelic word meaning "Hero's House."

BIRKHALL

A post office located on Lot 7 Con. 6 Moore Township with John McKenzie as postmaster. It passed out with the opening of Sarnia. It owes its name to English origin.

BLACKWELL

A station on the Canadian National Railway seven miles east of Sarnia. It is called after Thomas E. Blackwell, an Englishman. He was by profession, a civil engineer became Managing Director of the Grand Trunk Railway and from 1857 to 1862, the General Manager of that Railway in Canada.

BLUE POINT

A somewhat pronounced point on Lake Huron situate opposite Lot 37 Front Concession Plympton Township. On old marine charts it was known as Point Barrie. Probably bears its name from the high banks of blue clay that extend out into the lake at this point.

BOSANQUET

Occupies a more northerly position than any other portion of Lambton. It is one of the east tier Townships and is isolated in its position by its bordering Lake Huron on the north west. It reduces in width and reaches a mere point at the northern extremity. Bosanquet contains about seventy-five thousand acres including two Indian Reserves, on the shore of Lake Huron aggregating about six thousand acres. The first settlers in Bosanquet Township arrived about 1833.

For the greater part the township is rich and fertile though having some waste portions as it nears the northern apex. Its shore line makes a beautiful drive from Kettle Point to Port Franks the sands of the beach being so firm as to make a beautiful roadway. It was named after Mr Charles Bosanquet who was the first President of the Canada Company which Company owned a goodly portion of this Township. Its population in 1921 was twenty three hundred and thirty-two.

BRAWSHAW

A post office opened at Lot 20, Con. 15, Township of Sombra. The first postmaster was Wm. Brawshaw after whom it was named, not now operating.

BREWSTER

The name at one time borne by the Lambton section of Grand Bend called after a Mr Brewster a mill owner at the point. It operated for some time as a post office.

BRIGDEN

A thriving police village in the Township of Moore situate on the M. C. R. So named after John Brigden one of the Canada Southern Railway engineers, who surveyed the road. It has several good stores, churches and a thrifty population of about three hundred and is the centre of a thriving agricultural district.

BROOKE

This township was named after Sir James Brooke, whose exploits from 1837 to 1847 in establishing a British Protectorate in a portion of Borneo made him the popular hero of the day. The township was surveyed by Samuel Smith in 1832, and opened for sale in the latter part of 1833 a very large portion of it being taken up by the United Empire Loyalists.

It is one of the eastern tier of townships. Its soil, generally speaking, is clay loam and with a fair and proper drainage has become one of the most productive townships in Ontario. The main branch of the Sydenham river commonly known as Bear Creek, traverses in an uneven course the south east corner of the township and several branches of the same meander through the whole eastern half the western portion being free from streams.

[illegible] Office [illegible]

Its homes, schools, churches and general appearance denote thrift and plenty

Brooke has an area of 78,040 acres, and its population by the 1921 census was 2703

BUNYAN

A post office, situate on the Second Concession of Sarnia Township. It was opened about 1875 at the residence of Ebenezer Watson a pioneer of this township who settled there in 1806 Mr Watson became the first postmaster This settlement was largely of the Baptist faith Mr Watson being a Baptist and named it Bunyan after John Bunyan famous as the author of 'Pilgrim's Progress' A Baptist Church still bears the name Bunyan though the post office is no longer operating

BURNS

Situate at the corner of the 12th Concession of Moore and 18th sideroad. Burns Presbyterian Church is known the country side over it was so named after the Rev William Burns who established and opened the church Mr Burns was one of the first Professors of Knox College

CAIRO

A village in the Township of Euphemia. Until recent years it bore the name Suthea and a Corners, after the Sutherland family The length of this name caused a petition to be sent to the Postal Department for a change of name Cairo was the name finally given, probably after Cairo, Egypt, or Cairo Missouri just which is not made clear in the records before us.

CAMLACHIE

A small village in the Township of Plympton on the C. N. R. some twenty miles from Sarnia It was founded by one Duncan McDonald in 1852 and named after his birth-place in Scotland now a ward or part of the City of Glasgow

This village contains three churches, several stores and many cosy comfortable homes, and caters splendidly to the needs of a thrifty community

CHEMATAGON

A point in the St Clair River This is called by navigators Jimmie Tagan it is a small channel separating Squirrel Island from Walpole Island, it empties nearly at right angles in the waters of the St Clair River and is very wide out In Indian tongue it means a stream that runs away from another Thus you will see is very appropriate.

CHARLEMONT

A post office in the Township of Sombra, named after a barracks in Ireland. The first postmaster was Andrew Brown. Like most other rural post offices it no longer operates, but a general store still bears the name and marks the place where the post office first opened.

COLINVILLE

Lot 14 Con 9 Moore Township opened as a post office about 1840 and continued until the coming of rural mail delivery. So named after Colin McDiarmott, an early settler and at one time mail carrier.

COPLESTON

The name given to the post office operating in the village of Marthaville there being another post office bearing the name Marthaville in Canada. To avoid confusion the postal department gave the name Copleston. The property on which Marthaville now stands was owned by Richard Smith who surveyed it into village lots. He was an Englishman and a builder by trade and when a name was asked for the post office he suggested Copple-stone which reduced to Copleston was accepted.

COREY

A station and post office on M. C. R. just south of Petrolia. Named after Hiram Corey, a prominent oil man of Petrolia. It no longer operates as a post office, but in a way station of the above road.

CORUNNA

A delightfully situated village in the township of Moore and on the St. Clair River, six miles from Sarnia. It bears its name from the battle fought and won by Sir John Moore. In recent years it has developed as a summer resort, and is the summer home of many. Opposite the Stag Island.

COURTRIGHT

A thriving village of some five hundred people, six miles below Corunna, and also on the St. Clair River. It was named after Mr. Courtright, president of the then Canada Southern Railroad.

It has several good business places, three churches and many homes. Its chief industry is manufacture of salt in large plant operating the year round. It like its neighbor Corunna, is a summer resort.

CROMAR

A post office, Lot 4, Con. 3 Moore Township. The first postmaster was John Watson son of Jas. Watson, clerk for years of Moore Township. It was named after a place in Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

CUTHBERT

A post office situate on Lot 30 Con 2 Dawn Township, opened about 1896 First postmaster Alex. Cuthbertson, and named after him.

DAWN

One of the Townships comprising the County of Lambton being in the southern tier of townships The early records show this township was first known as "Arigant moss," an Indian word probably better known by the Indians as Arganoss and meaning "walking with snow shoes."

Of the adoption of Dawn as a name two solutions are offered. to "Gardiner's Nook, (of nothing but names) he hints that it refers to the dawn of liberty for the escaped negro slaves who were settled on a portion of this land about 1830 by a party by the name of King. The other theory as to the name is that the Government surveyor s commencing their work at the St Clair River and working back through what is now the Township of Sombra ate the latter after passing great dense forests which almost excluded the light they came upon some higher and open ground and named it the "Dawn"

Dawn was originally heavily wooded with elm and ash and much lumbering was carried on These days have passed and fine well-cleared and well improved farms comprise the township It s population in 1921 was 2470 and has an acreage of sixty-five thousand five hundred and seventeen acres.

DAWN CENTRE

Now called Rutherford prior o the formation of the Gore of Camden, this point was the centre of the Township Bears its name from the Township

DAWN VALLEY

A post office opened at Lot 20, Con 1 Dawn. It passed out with the coming of rural mail First postmaster Hugh Dunlop opened about 1890 This point, too, bears its name from the Township.

DUTHILL

A post office at Lot 12, Con 9 Sombra, named after the Parish of Duthill, Invernesshire, Scotland A church was built here in 1857 and it was then the name was first introduced, and applied to the post office which was opened a few years later

EDYS MILLS

A village in Dawn Township About 1867 one Melvin Letteridge built a custom saw mill at this point. It was financed by two brothers named Edy of London The enterprise not proving successful it passed into the hands of the Edy Brothers, who enlarged the mill it finally passing to the above firm of Sutherland & Irwin,

of Chatham, who operated it as long as the timber lasted. At one time it had about 200 residents, today a store, school, church and two or three houses comprise the village.

A spur line of the M. C. R. extends from Oil Springs to Edys, it was named after the Edy Brothers.

INNISKILLEN

The central township of the County of Lambton, named after a town in Ireland, but to the Canadians the name is more familiar from the memory of the famous charge of the Enniskillen Guards and the Scotch Greys at the Battle of Balaclava.

In point of area it is one of the largest townships in the County. For years it was the centre of the oil producing territory and agriculture was only a secondary pursuit. It was in this township that rock oil was first discovered in Canada, but in recent years it has made rapid strides in agriculture and is given over now almost entirely to grain-raising and grazing. It's population in 1921 was three thousand and sixty-three, and an acreage of about eighty-two thousand acres.

EGREMONT

The name borne by a road running from a point a few miles west of Camlachie to London.

When Lord Egremont, an Englishman, brought to this country a colony of settlers, arriving at London, Ontario, from that point west to Lake Huron he found no road save only an Indian trail. This trail was followed, choosing it out and building a passable road as they moved along. This road from Warwick east to London is now the main highway which thousands of tourists pass annually. It has from the date of the above settlement until the present retained its original name Egremont.

ERROL

With the coming of the above settlers a town site was laid out on the shores of Lake Huron of no mean pretentions. The plans filed in the County Registry Office show streets and avenues covering many acres, but the dreams of these early pioneers failed to be realized as it never attained much size. It was, however for years a post office serving the people as far north as Kettle Point. The first post office was opened in 1840, a Mr. Toulman being the first postmaster. He was followed by Thos. Laing who in turn was succeeded by George Whiting. A graveyard today is practically the only remaining reminder of this dream city.

It is interesting to note that the first newspaper published in this county was printed in this village. It was called "The Sentinel."

Erol was named after a small village on the Firth of Tay Scotland.

EUPHEMIA

The most south easterly township of the County and in point of acreage, the smallest, containing thirty-nine thousand six hundred acres of land

The Sydenham River enters the township at its extreme north at Aberfoldy and winds easterly and south until it emerges from the Township at Florence All this western portion of the township is very fertile land It is essentially and strictly an agricultural community The lands of the eastern and southern portions are reckoned to be sandy loam the surface being more or less undulated, while to the north and west a general flatness distinguishes the topography and the soil being much heavier The western portion is splendidly adapted for grain growing, while the eastern portion is more adapted for grazing and fruit growing

The township was set apart from Zone about 1848 but the original survey of the township was performed in 1822 by Samuel Smith The first settler in the township was David Fancher in 1825 The township was named after Mrs. Euphemia Cameron mother of the Honourable Malcolm Cameron who at that time represented the district in the Baldwin-Lafontaine Government.

Euphemia is a Greek word meaning "good language" — "eloquence"— "praise"

The Dominion census of 1921 gives its population 1521

FANCHER

The name given to an old road cut out from Newbury to Florence, winding its way across the entire Township of Euphemia and for a goodly portion of that way following or being adjacent to a creek bearing the same name

The road and creek bear their name from an early settler one David Fancher who settled there in 1822 and he was largely responsible for the building of the road

The descendents of David Fancher still reside in Euphemia a great grandson R W Fancher being the member of Parliament for East Lambton at the present time.

The word Fancher is of French origin

FAWN ISLAND

A small Canadian Island lying just below Sombra village, in the St Clair River It is about one-half the area of Stag Island in more or less wooded but has never been developed as a summering place for which purpose both its situation and beauty would well lend itself Thus island was also a deer resort, and gets its name from fawn or young deer It was for years named as Woodtick Island

FLORENCE

A pleasant little village on the Sydenham river in the Township of Euphemia, some 2 miles from Bothwell on the C. N. R. from

which point it receives its mail.

Colonel George R. Kirby was the first postmaster of this centre, then known as Zone Mills, appointed January 6th, 1840 but with the formation of Lambton County and the setting apart of Euphemia as a township, the name Zone Mills was changed to Victoria, after the late Queen, but continual confusion in mail of Victoria and Vittoria, a village in Norfolk County, the name was again changed to Florence, after a place of the same name in Italy.

FOREST

A town on the Canadian Nat onal Railway some 25 miles from Sarnia and about 5 miles from Lake Huron, incorporated as a town in 1869. It is surrounded by a rich farming district and is a thriving centre, with well ordered stores, fine homes, well appointed public buildings, schools and churches.

The name Forest was conferred on a station here by the Railway authorities from the fact of its having been located in a dense bush, and the people were so well pleased with the name that in response to their pet tion it was conferred upon the Post Office which was opened the same year, 1860, with Robert Dyer as postmaster. It was incorporated as a town in 1889.

It has the advantages of being close to Kettle Point and other

Lambton County Export Apples

summering points on Lake Huron. The census of 1921 gives its population as 1422.

FROOMFIELD

A pretty little summer resort 5 miles south of Sarnia on the St. Clair River. It was first settled by the building of a mill on the little creek emptying into the river at this point by two brothers named Telfourd. The christian names of these two brothers were Froom and Field and the combined names give the village its name. The name Telfourd was given to the Creek flowing into the St. Clair at this point.

GARVILLE

A post office opened at Lot 19 Con. 5, Township of Dawn, with George Hayle as postmaster. Named after a post office in Scotland called Garv. It operated until rural mail service was established.

GLEN RAE

So called after one John Rae who built and operated a stave mill at this point situated on the M. C. R. 4 miles east of Oil City. A store and post office remain to mark the spot. Opened about 1898 with L. A. Riley as first postmaster.

GRAND BEND

At this point the Aux Sable enters Lake Huron after a bend of great length and from this the name was given the settlement. To-day particularly in the summer months, it is a busy place, being a shimmering spot of no mean pretentions, many cottages, dance halls and three hotels indicate its popularity. It lies partly in the County of Lambton and partly in Huron County. The Lambton side of this village was formerly called Brewster.

Grand Bend might well be called the watering place of all that interior portion of Western Ontario within a radius reachable by auto.

HALE

A post office opened at Lot 30 Con. 12, Dawn Township, in 1890. First postmaster John Hale from whom it bore its name.

HEATHER

A post office on the 7th Con. Brooke near east boundary opened in 1899 with Donald McIntyre as first postmaster so named from the heather plant as dear to every Scotchman, and this was distinctly a Scotch settlement.

HENRY'S CORNER

Post Office in Sombra so named after Warren T. Henry and Nathaniel Henry who came here from about Kingston. Mr. Henry was first postmaster.

HILLSBOROUGH

The name borne today by that hilly part of the shore of Lake Huron, lying just at the north west corner of Plympton township is more or less of a summer resort and in common with many other points of this shore line is very pleasing to the eye. At one time a post office was opened here probably about 1855 with Thomas Hill as first postmaster from whom it bears its name.

HOLMESDALE

At one time a stave mill village on the M. C. R. three miles east of Out City called after Mr. Holmes of the firm of Holmes, Moore and Courtright.

INWOOD

The only surviving village in Lambton County that sprung up as a result of the lumbering and stave mills. It is now the centre of a good agriculture district and is a fairly busy village. Contrary to the accepted belief that it obtained its name by reason of being built up in the centre of a dense wooded district, it was really named by C. H. Moore one of the members of the stave mill firm after a pretty town on the Hudson River New York State.

IPPERWASH

The name given to the Beach lying along the shore of Lake Huron between Kettle Point and Stoney Point. Many cottages at the summer colony are here and in summer months presents a gala scene. The drive on the sands of the beach at this point can be followed for some miles and is one of the most pleasant to be found anywhere. As far as can be ascertained the name has no historic meaning but means "upper wash."

JERICHO

A post office located on Lot 14 Concession 8 Township of Bosanquet, and has its name from the Bible reference to the place near Jerusalem. It is about 2 miles south and west of Thedford and was expected to be the station point on the Grand Trunk Railway instead of Thedford. It being on a higher ridge, but difficulty over securing the land for the station site, was located where Thedford now stands.

JURA

A post office opened at Lot 4, Con. 5, Bosanquet Township, in 1865, with James McCordic as first postmaster and called after one of the Hebride Islands.

KERTCH

At one time a post office on Lot 26 Con. 5 (London Road) but has not operated for some time. This post office was opened about

ly after the close of the Crimean war and was no doubt called after Kertch a strait separating Crimea from the mainland.

KETTLE POINT

A point seven miles almost due north from Forest on Lake Huron, and so named from the peculiar formation of stone found imbedded in the shale. These stones are perfectly rounded, varying in size from probably a foot in diameter to many times that size. Geologists and scientists have so far failed to explain this seeming freak of nature.

Another peculiar formation on the shore line at this place is the appearance of the shale which forms the banks. Its regularity in shapes of long oblong blocks give it the appearance of modern mason work.

The Kettle Point Reservation occupies the land lying along this portion of the lake covering an area of two thousand one hundred acres.

KIMBALL

A post office and station on the M. C. R. Moore Township, named after James Kimball the first postmaster and proprietor.

of the store when the Canada Southern Railway was built It has at the present writing, two stores and is a thrifty hamlet.

KINNAIRD

A post office opened at Lot 12 Concession 11, Rosanquet, and named after a village near Dundee in Scotland of the same name, and means "at the head of the height." It operated for a number of years but is now closed.

KINGSCOURT

Arthur J Kingston, County Longford, Ireland, was the owner of a large tract of land in Warwick Township developing what is known as the Ellarton Salt Plant, and later constructed a tram way to intersect the then Grand Trunk Railway. Mr Kingston's Estate in Ireland, was known as Kingscourt and the Railroad in compliment to him, gave the Junction the name.

LADYSMITH

A post office opened at Lot 22, Con 2 Moore about the time of the relief of Ladysmith in the South African war A Mr Coyle was the first postmaster It of course bore its name from Ladysmith South Africa.

LAKE SMITH

A small lake situate in the Township of Rosanquet, between Thedford and Grand Bend in close proximity to what is known as the Klondike Road It has no importance other than being a mecca for duck shooting in season

LAMBTON CELERY GARDENS

No history of Lambton would be complete that did not mention this area Many acres of extremely fertile land having been reclaimed by the drainage system between Thedford and Port Franks was found to be wonderfully adapted for celery growing and has developed into a real industry many car loads of choicest celery being shipped from Thedford annually from these fields. The sight as one drives through these gardens during the summer months is pleasing to the eye and at the same time a revelation

LANGBANK

A post office situated on Lot 21, Con. 11 Township of Dawn, named after the native place in Scotland of Mr J C Wood This post office was opened in 1890 with Mr J C Wood as first postmaster

LOGIERAIT

A post office opened at the house of David Ross e, 12th Concession, Moore, in 1863 named after a town in Scotland Mr Rossie was first postmaster It passed out as a post office on the introduction of rural mail service.

LUCASVILLE

Practically every visitor to Sarnia, prior to 1910 will recall this place. Situated on the Plank Road some four miles from Sarnia. For many years it boasted a hotel, school house and church It was named after George Lucas The church and school remain to mark the corner which became as well known through its hostelry This place at one time, was a post office, with George Lucas as first postmaster

MANDAUMIN

A station and post office on the C N R. 7 miles from Sarnia, opened at the time of the building of the above named road

The story of the naming of this place is interesting The Government requested Malcolm Cameron, then Representative of this district, to name the post office. He gave it the name of Ruleliffe, probably after an Anglican missionary labouring in this section. This locality was, even in those days, fairly settled and the settlement objected to the name as given, calling a meeting at which Mr Cameron was present Some re-arrangement of political lines was in progress at headquarters. Mr Cameron had been caricatured as a "coon" up a tree looking which side to come down The name stuck and he was referred to as "Coon Cameron" for years. He took the matter jocularly and at the meeting agreed to change the name, saying we will give the coon something to eat we will give the name Mandaumin" which is the Indian for corn or maize. The name was adopted

MARTHAVILLE

A village in Enniskillen Township on the Twelfth Concession in the heart of the oil district Our information is that one of the early operators Thomas by name, a oil man, named it after his wife, whose name was Martha. Its close proximity to Petrolia (some three miles) has prevented its growing beyond the hamlet stage. The post office at this point is Capleston.

McCREADY

A post office opened on Lot 3 in Con 5 Euphemia in 1860. So called after James McCready for many years Reeve of the Township Duncan Ross was later postmaster for some eighteen years.

MOORE

The central of the western or St. Clair range of townships The south branch of the Sydenham pursues its crooked way across its south east corner but besides this there are no streams other than dry creeks which run very short distances inland at right angles to the St Clair into which they flow

The earliest settlement of the county was along the St. Clair front and the present name of the township was given in honour of the celebrated British General Sir John Moore, who fell in the

bloody field of Corunna, just before the surveying of this township.

"No useless coffin enclosed his breast,
Not in sheet, nor in shroud we wound him,
But he lay like a warrior taking his rest,
With his martial cloak around him."

It is a well-improved area with practically no waste land, has good roads and fine homes.

It is populated by thrifty contented people, mostly engaged in practical farming. Its population in 1921 was three thousand six hundred and eleven, and covers an area comprising seventy-two thousand two hundred and fifty-seven acres.

MOORETOWN

A village of Moore Township, deriving its name from the same source as the township. It is seven miles from Sarnia and two miles from Courtright on the St. Clair River. It overlooks the River St. Clair, has the usual places of business, churches and schools found in a small village, and a population of about one hundred.

MOSSIDE

A post office in Euphemia Township, opened about 1885, with James McCabe as postmaster. So called after Mossley, a place near Sligo, Ireland.

NAUVOO

The main road from Alvinston to Watford. So named after Nauvoo in the state of Illinois. About 1840 a mormon preacher named John Borrowman, came from the East. In and around Gardiner's Mills, now Alvinston, he secured several converts to that faith, whether from objection taken to this faith or for some other reasons these mormon converts decided to go to Nauvoo, Ill. and the line of their "trek" to the London Road was the road above mentioned and it has borne the name "Nauvoo" ever since. It is one of the pleasant driveways of Lambton County.

OAKDALE

A post office located on lot 26, Con. 13, Dawn Township, opened in 1890. The first postmaster was Alex McDougall. Named after the growth of oak in this district. The post office is gone but a store remains to claim the name.

OBAN

A post office opened on Lot 3, Con. 5, Plympton. The first postmaster was a Mr. Brown. Named after a place in Scotland.

OGEMAH

An Indian word meaning "Chief" and the name borne by a post office opened in 1877, about three miles further north than Errol on the lake shore road, with T. R. K. Scott, one of the pioneer settlers, as postmaster. Mr. Scott was succeeded in 1882 by George Symington as postmaster.

An interesting feature in connection with all these lake shore post offices in these early days was, their mail service was given by two men named Church and Hankell, who travelled on horseback from Sarnia to Bayfield, leaving and collecting the mail as they came and went.

OIL CITY

A station on the Canada Southern or M. C. R., two miles north of Oil Springs. It obtained its name from the oil boom and the quantity of oil found there. At that time it was a busy village, but has now but two stores, a post office and a few residences.

OIL SPRINGS

Probably incorporated as a village in 1866, prior to that it was known as Black Creek, owing to the black oil (petroleum) that seeped from the soil and found its way to this creek. Wm. Harriman, J.P., was the first postmaster. It is today the centre of a good community of farmers and a thrifty village.

Its population in 1921 is given as 490. In 1866, at the height of its oil boom, it had a population of over 3000. At this time it had twelve large general stores, 9 hotels and every other equipment usually found in a town where fortunes were made and lost in a day.

There are still many oil wells operated here and considerable oil obtained.

OSBORNE

A post office opened about 1875, at the corner of lot seven, concession twelve, Moore Township, with Alex. Lamont as post master and later on Mr. Lamont's removal, Wm. L. Gardiner became post master. In all probability it was named after the favorite castle of the late Queen Victoria, "Osborne Castle" on the Isle of Wight. A church and school house still remain in the Osborne district. The post office no longer operates.

OSSIAN

A post office opened on Lot 1, Con. 8, Moore Township. George McPherson a warden at one time of Lambton County, was first postmaster and gave it the name Ossian taken from the Scotch poet McPherson's Poems.

PARDEE

A post office opened at Lot 30, Concession 6, Sombra, about the year 1910 with James Babcock as first postmaster. It was only in operation for a short time, for rural mail delivery following close-

ly upon to spending It was closed Senator F F Pardee was at this time the Representative of West Lambton and it bore his name

PAYNE

A post office located on the farm of Joseph Payne, Lot 24 Con 8, Moore Township Named after Mr J Payne.

PERCH

A name given to a stream flowing through Sarnia Township and emptying into Lake Huron about ten miles above Point Edward The name is also borne by a way station on the Canadian National Railway near this stream.

Perch derives its name from the French (River Aux Perches) and was no doubt given by the early French explorers.

PETROLIA

As may be judged it owes not only its name but subsequent development to the discovery and profitable production of petroleum or rock oil. It was about 1861 that oil was first discovered here but it was not until 1866 that its development really started for the reason that prior to this, wells had been put down at Oil Springs and as it was there obtained by natural flow consequently being less expensive to operate, that territory was developed and it was only when the natural flow ceased about 1866 that the Petrolia field was again returned to, and the Oil Springs field, for the time practically abandoned Inasmuch as all roads out had to be taxed to Wyoming the nearest railway point and the haul from Petrolia was the shorter and for some time following this, Petrolia and vicinity was the scene of the great oil activity of Canada and Oil Springs, as a town began its rapid decline

Today the oil supply of this territory has greatly decreased and the bustle of old days is no more still it is a thriving centre, supplying the needs of a prosperous farming community Its population in 1921 was 3148 It derived its name from the source that caused its birth petroleum, and was named in 1861 by Patrick Barclay the first postmaster

PINE HILL

At one time a little village lying a mile an two from the present Village of Thedford and named after the growth of pine on this elevation The post office at this point was called Wolder

At one time a saw mill was operated there by Edward Proctor who afterwards became Registrar of Deeds for Lambton County

PLYMPTON

Plympton is the most northern of the centre tier of Lambton County townships and is bounded on the north by a portion of Bosanquet and on the north west by Lake Huron

Where Lambton's [illegible] Product—Petroleum—is Manufactured

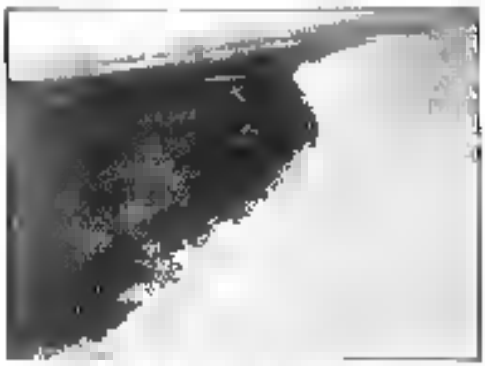
It is the second largest township in the county having 76080 acres. The settlement of Plympton dates back from 1832 in which year a large number of immigrants located along the Egremont Road in the 5th and 6th Concessions. They came out from Europe under the patronage of Lord Egremont. There was also a settlement at Camlachie the same year. The land there was settled in 1833 by old countrymen and in 1835 and 36 a considerable number of Scotch settlers came to the southern part of the township from Lanark county. When the settlement was effected along the lake there was no way of communicating with Sarnia then a straggling hamlet containing only one store except by boats on the lake.

Plympton was named after a town in Devonshire, England on the Plym River near which was Beechwood the beautiful home of Sir John Colborne Governor of Canada when Plympton was surveyed.

It will be seen that it is one of the oldest townships in Lambton and today is a splendid agricultural district peopled by a thrifty contented industrious people. Its population in 1921 was two thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine.

POINT EDWARD

This municipality at one time called Huron entered upon its corporate existence only with the beginning of the year 1879. It is situated in the extreme north west corner of Lambton County where the waters of Lake Huron flow into the St. Clair River and at one time was the Canadian terminus of the then Grand Trunk Railway. As would be surmised, during this period, it was exclusively a railroad town and at one time had a population of over two thousand, but when the Grand Trunk removed their round



Sarnia

house to Sarnia, after the opening of the St. Clair Tunnel the railway men and their families removed to Sarnia and Point Edward lost largely in population, and for some time was a very quiet village but latterly has revived and is today a place of some 1258 souls.

A large stone cutting plant is located here and is also the shipping point of the Northern Navigation fleet of boats. In the summer months its water front is a hive of industry not only from the above source but at this point the ore docks of the Steel Company of Canada are located, and all ore is transhipped from the boats at these docks by rail to their plant at Hamilton

Point Edward was for years called Huron Village, but following the visit of Albert Edward Prince of Wales later King Edward VII of England it took on the name of Point Edward

If our records are correct, the first actual settler at this point was John P Bloeum from New York State who came in the year 1830.

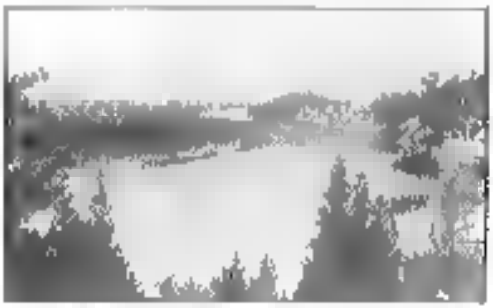
PORT FRANK

A pleasant summer resort situated on Lake Huron just above Stoney Point It has a hotel a store and many summer homes and splendid bathing facilities, and in summer months has quite a population.

It was named after Charles Frank vice president of the Canada Company in 1835 which Company owned the land along the lake.

PORT LAMBTON

A village in Sombra Township and beautifully situated on the St. Clair river 25 miles south from Sarnia It received its name in common with the County from Lord Durham's English Estate It has many summer homes and is a port of call for the Detroit passenger steamers



THE A[illegible] ON PORT FRANK

RAVENSWOOD

A post office first opened at lot 61 L. R. E. Bosanquet, in 1853 John Rawlings being the first postmaster. Later it was removed to lot 65, L. R. E. It was named after a place mentioned in Sir Walter Scott's poems, yet an old settler states this post office was named from the fact that in the days when the shore line was densely wooded with pine the crows and ravens infested these woods feeding on the carrion fish in the bay and the woods was then known as Crow's Wood or Ravenswood. It may be this was the source of the name.

ROCK GLEN

The name borne by one of the beauty spots of Lambton County situate on the Aux Sauble River near Arkona.

The river at this point winds its way between high hills densely wooded with its primeval growth of timber and with the waters rushing over the dam constructed here lends a scene many tourists go miles to gaze upon.

At this point Hydro power is developed and lights the adjoining village and furnishes power to the mills and plants in the vicinity.

ROKEBY

A post office opened in 1850 at lot [illegible], concession nine, Brooke Township, with Archibald Campbell as first postmaster. Mr. Campbell died in 1891 and his wife, Mrs. Margaret Campbell, became post mistress and remained as such until with rural mail service the post office was closed. Named after one of Sir Walter Scott's poems, "Rokeby".

RUTHERFORD

Originally called Dawn Centre, named after a Scotch Clergyman, Samuel Rutherford. It is a small village at the junction of [illegible] sideroad and the 7th concession of Dawn. The Township Hall is located there, as well as two stores, a mill, two churches and many comfortable homes.

SARNIA

The history of Sarnia and vicinity begins with the coming of the first white man, LaRoche De Ilon, a Recollett missionary, who visited the Attiwandaron Indians in 1627. These Indians were afterwards called by the French "The Neutrals," and occupied many villages in Western Ontario. One of these villages, called St. Francis, by the French missionaries, was situated a few miles from Sarnia.

The first white man to pass down the Sainte Claire River, once known as the "[illegible]" (meaning clear water) was Joliet, (a native-born Canadian) about the year 1669. The river was named St. Clair by Father Hennepin in 1670. He was storm

heard at the foot of Lake Huron then known as "Karegnondi," by the Neutrals and as "Canatara" by the Iroquois, and he tells us that there were then three mouths to the river. Point Edward was known as Pelagwano and as late as 1770 two channels were still open.

In 1686 Dulhuth founded Fort "Saint Joseph" at the foot of Lake Huron on the Canadian side and thirteen years before the founding of Detroit. A few years before this LaSalle sailed up the Sainte Claire in a boat which he had constructed above Niagara Falls.

In 1829 the Township of Sarnia was surveyed by the Government and a memo in the notes of the surveyor Roswell Mount states that on the LaForge farm where the present postoffice now stands, there was an orchard at least seventy-five years old and stumps of an older orchard from which he concluded that the farm had been occupied for one hundred and twenty five years.

Sarnia was first called "The Rapids," and while as far back as 1835 a town site was surveyed at Corunna, four miles below this city with the intention of making it the county seat later development established "The Rapids" (Sarnia) as the county town. At this date there were forty four taxpayers in the village there being nine frame houses four log houses, two brick houses, two

taverns and two stores. Previous to this time the inhabitants had become convinced that a change in the name of the village was necessary and with a pitiful lack of imagination the English favored the name Buenos Ayres, and the Scotch "New Glasgow." In 1835, Sir John Colborne, who had been governor of the Island of Guernsey and then governor of Upper Canada, paid a visit to the village and at his suggestion, at a village meeting the name 'Port Sarnia' was formally adopted, Sarnia having been the Roman name for the island of Guernsey.

Sir John Colborne reached the height of military fame when as Colonel of the 52nd, one of the regiments comprising the Light Brigade, he charged and broke Napoleon's Old Guard Line at Waterloo. This feat is generally regarded as the turning point of the battle.

In 1890 Sarnia and Port Huron, Mich., were connected with a tunnel under the Sainte Claire River and, at this time, the town became known as "Sarnia Tunnel." In the last few years, however, the word Tunnel was officially dropped and the city has since been known as, simply Sarnia.

Steamship and Railway lines give Sarnia easy transportation facilities to all parts of Canada and the United States.

SARNIA RESERVE

Comprises in the neighborhood of four thousand acres in the Township of Sarnia lying immediately south of Sarnia City's southern boundary and fronting on the St. Clair river. The Indians are Chippewas and number about 230.

Their reservation is gradually diminishing in size, portions being surrendered from time to time to industrious citizens.

SARNIA TOWNSHIP

Sarnia Township bears its name from the same source as that of the County Town namely, the Roman name for the Island of Guernsey which was given this section of the county by Sir John Colborne. Its western boundary lying on the St. Clair River probably accounts for this township being the earliest settled part of Western Canada. While the Anglo-Saxons began their settlements in this locality in the early thirties yet there had been a French settlement where Sarnia now stands a century and a half prior to this. The first municipal organization of the township took place in 1830.

Today Sarnia Township is one of the best developed in the county. The district lying adjacent to the City of Sarnia is divided up into small farms for market gardening for which its soil is wonderfully adapted and the products of these farms find ready markets in the city and northern ports.

The township was surveyed in 1829 by one Roswell Mount, and its population in 1921 was 2888. Its area covers about thirty nine thousand acres.

SELKERTON

A post office opened some years ago on Lot 13, Concession 6 Moore with Thomas Johnston as first postmaster The post office was moved frequently within the next few years, its first removal being to Lot 13 Concession 7 where William Gray was postmaster From there it was moved to Lot 21 Concession 7 with D. Lareau as postmaster and later to Lot 20 Concession 7 with Emerson Edwards as postmaster

The name of this post office was given by the Postal Department. Just why is not apparent.

An interesting feature in connection with it is that the salary of the first postmaster was twelve dollars per year

SHETLAND

Originally known as Dolbyns Mills but on the opening of a post office there with John Drew as postmaster it was named Shetland by the Postal Department, after the Shetland Islands The post office no longer operates, but a stone school, church four mile and several homes comprise the village It is situate on Lot 24 Con 2, Euphemia Township and close by the Sydenham river

SOMBRA TOWNSHIP

Sombra Township occupies the south westerly corner of Lambton County and was so named by the surveyors from the Spanish word "sombre" meaning shade

The above surveyors finding it densely wooded to such an extent as to almost exclude the light of day hence the name

Its first municipal organization dates from the year 1822. At that time it was united with the Township of Dover in the County of Kent. In 1826 Sombra withdrew from Dover and St Clair Township, comprising the present Sombra and Moore, as well as Walpole Island, became a township Later on it separated from Moore and became a separate Township. It was left with an acreage of seventy two thousand acres.

In the early days it was a reserve peopled by the Shawanoes Indians The Sydenham river (north branch) traverses the township from north to south For many years owing to the lack of drainage the township was slow in development but in late years it has wonderfully developed into a fine agricultural area peopled by a hardy industrious population numbering in 1921 three thousand two hundred and seventy four souls.

SOMBRA VILLAGE

A village of the township of the same name situate on the St Clair River 6 miles north of Port Lambton It's name is synonymous with that of the township. It is a thrifty pleasant village of some 250 people, connected by a ferry service with Marine City in the U. S. and this population is greatly increased in summer

months by those seeking a pleasant summer resort. It is a station on the Pere Marquette Railroad.

SQUIRREL ISLAND

A small island separated from Walpole Island by the Chematagon Channel and lying at the south of Walpole, and is practically a part of that island, being under the same Indian Council. It is also peopled solely by Indians.

STAG ISLAND

Isle-aux-Serfs—which on being interpreted from the French reads Isle of Stags hence the name Stag Island. In early days our records show it was a rendezvous for deer and many interesting tales are related relative to hunting on this island by early explorers and settlers.

It comprises some two hundred acres the eastern side of which is beautifully wooded, while the western side is cleared.

A spacious dancing pavilion summer hotel and numerous cottages are built along its eastern shore line and the constant passing up and down of steamers together with its natural surroundings make it a very pleasant spot for a summer outing.

While apparently in mid-stream of the St. Clair River it yet belongs to Canada. It lies immediately opposite the Village of Corunna.

STONEY POINT

A point projecting itself into the waters of Lake Huron, a short distance above Kettle Point, and so called from its stony surface. The Stoney Point reservation of Chippewa Indians numbering about forty occupy the twenty five hundred and ninety acres lying adjacent to this point.

SUTORVILLE

A post office established on Lot 14 Concession 13 Township of Brooke, opened in 1891. The first post master was James Davis and the post office bears its name from a Mr Sutor who owned and operated a stave mill there for some years.

The post office has passed out of existence and an Anglican church alone remains to mark the place which at one time had one or two stores and a stave mill operating.

SYDENHAM

A river the two branches of which with their tributaries, meander over the greater part of the centre and southern portion of Lambton County furnishing practically the natural outlet for this section of the county.

The southern branch takes its rise in Warwick Township, flowing southward where it is joined by Bear Creek which enters the County about the centre of Brooke Township's eastern boundary. From there it flows south and east, entering Euphemia Township's northern boundary about the centre, wanders in a south easterly course across that township into the Township of Dawn emerging from the county at the south eastern corner of this last mentioned township. It then follows a winding course across the county of Kent, joining the northern branch at Wallaceburg.

The northern branch of the river also finds its source in the township of Warwick and joined by other numerous streams or creeks lying in the territory adjacent to the town line between Enniskillen and Moore, flows southward being swollen by many other little rivulets including Black Creek or Bear Creek until as it reaches Wilkesport, Sombra Township it has assumed the proportion of a really river. From there on it flows south and west into the county of Kent and along the south branch as above stated at Wallaceburg. The now united streams form the parent river which from this point follows on in its ever varying course, eventually emptying its waters into Lake St. Clair. From the lake as far as Wallaceburg the river is navigable for moderate sized vessels and both branches for further distances for small craft.

The river was named after Charles Edward Poulett-Thompson Governor-General of Canada in 1839 and whose landed title in England was Lord Sydenham.

SYKESTON

A post office on Lot 7 Con. 10 Moore, first postmaster Robert Neal. Named Sykeston by Robert Fleck after the Sykes family who settled in this township some of whom are still resident in Moore.

THEDFORD

A thriving village situate on the Canadian National Railway some thirty five miles east of Sarnia and lying in the Township of Bosanquet

Nelson Southworth a native of the State of Vermont gave to the Railway officials the station site the condition being he was to have the privilege of naming the station Thedford after a place of that name in Vermont This village of some 524 souls is the centre of a well developed fruit area. Its places of business are well kept and supply the needs of a thrifty community

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TANCRED

A post office situate on Lot 16 Con. 2, Brooke Township, opened in 1880 and named by the Department after a character in Scott's novel "The Talisman." The first postmaster was Angus McKinlay

TERMINUS

A post office opened in Sombra township on lot 15 con. 8. No record of why it was so named appears. It passed out with the coming of rural mail delivery. Alex Gibson was first postmaster

THORNYHURST

A post office situate on lot 6 con 8 Sombra Township named after Walter Thornyhurst, an early settler of the neighborhood. He was also first postmaster. It too, has ceased to exist as a post office

UTTOXETER

A small village and for years a post office on 24th sideroad Plympton. A blacksmith shop, church orange hall, and a few residences today comprise the village. It was named by Thos. Doherty one of the residents when the post office was opened given the name after a place in England.

VYNER

A post office situate on lot one concession nine Sarnia Township, about 1867 with John Gates as first postmaster and who held the position as long as it operated being almost forty years. It is reputed to be named after an English family by name Vynor

WALPOLE

The name given to the large island separated from Lambton County by the Snycarte River. It has an area of 49,000 acres, and its population of 753 is composed of 583 Chippewas and 170 Pottawatamies.

It would appear that the scattered Indians of the Chippewa tribe, at the close of the war of 1812-14 were placed on this island. The Pottawatamies coming from the United States about 1841 and by permission of the Government, allowed to settle on this island. It is difficult to arrive at the naming of the Island, but the best deduction is that it was named after Lt. Arthur Walpole, or Lt. John Walpole; or probably both. These two men having been engaged in surveying this part of Canada for some time.

The Island itself is still to a large extent, wooded though some farming is carried on. On a map of Upper Canada West, compiled in 1855 the present Walpole Island bears the name of St. Mary's Island.

WALNUT

A post office on Lot 15, Con. 9 Township of Brooke, opened in 1877, with Isaac Ayers as first postmaster and so called from the growth of Walnut timber in that locality.

WANSTEAD

A small village on the C. N. R. some seventeen miles east of Sarnia. This village was surveyed by E. R. Jones, Land Surveyor in 1868 and filed in the Registry Office by Henry C. R. Beecher, the then owner of the land in 1850. It remains a station on the C. N. R., has one store, church and a population of about one hundred.

Wanstead in all probability was named after a suburban village of London, England. This village dates back to the time of the Saxons and was known as "Woden's Place."

WARWICK

One of the eastern tier of townships of Lambton County, named after one of the inland counties of England. Both branches of the Sydenham River [illegible] in this township. The surface of the township is in great part almost entirely level, though much of it is [illegible] the gently undulating, varying [illegible] other townships of the county to the [illegible] level [illegible] in the vicinity of the water courses.

Its soil is very fertile and well adapted for agricultural pursuits. The survey of the township took place in 1832. Peter Carl being the engineer who accomplished it, and the earliest settlement within its limits was effected during the same year. It is comprised of about seventy thousand acres.

Its first school and the first church in the township was built in Warwick Village—the former in 1840, and the latter, the Episcopal church (still standing), in 1843.

Today, this township presents a scene pleasing to the eye. A scene of fine farms and homesteads which show the industry and thrift of its people. Taken as a whole township, it ranks with the first in the Province. In 1921 its population was two thousand, three hundred and seventy-six.

WARWICK VILLAGE

A village in the Township of Warwick. At one time it was quite a centre of the farming community, but not being on the railroad, it has rather diminished in population. It is prettily located on the Egremont road, some 24 miles from Sarnia.

WATFORD

A thriving village in the Township of Warwick, on the C. N. R. 30 miles distant from Sarnia, surrounded by a splendid farming district.

In 1853 one Richard Brown opened a store where Watford now stands. It was known as Brown's corners. The next year, 1854, he was appointed postmaster of the post office now being opened and Brown's Corners was named Watford after a place in England. Its homes, places of business and public buildings would be a credit to larger centres than Watford.

WATSON

A station on the Pere Marquette, some sixteen miles from Sarnia, named after W. H. Watson, the then Deputy Reeve of Sombra, who had taken a prominent part in securing the bonus given to the [illegible] Railway Co. This Company being the original owners of the present Pere Marquette.

GARDEN

WAUSUNG

A post office opened on Lot 13, Con 2, Moore Township with Thomas Moore as first postmaster Later postmasters at this point were Thomas Capen E D Varnum Myron Overton and John Young Though the post office passed out with rural mail delivery the church school and community is known as Wauseng The word itself is of Indian origin meaning "the dawn of day"

WAWANOSH

Until the putting through of the Cull drain a large acreage in the northwest part of Sarnia Township was in whole or in part covered with water This was known as Lake Wawanosh The draining of this section has given a large and fertile area ever for market gardening

The word "Wawanosh" is from the Indian tongue meaning one who sails carefully

WEIDMAN

At one time a post office and station on the Canada Southern Railway east of Oil City One Paul Weidman opened a stave mill there in the days of lumbering It was named after Mr Weidman

WHEELER

A post office opened at Lot 4 Con 3 Enniskillen Township Named after the Wheeler family who were probably the first settlers in this part of the township

WIDDER

This was the name given to Pine Hill post office in 1856, after M Widder who owned the property there The postmaster was Ulrick Chester

WIDDER STATION

This was the first name of the post office where Thedford now stands The post office was opened in 1862, with Robert Rae as postmaster The post offices of Widder and Widder Station were some miles apart

WILKESPORT

A village in Sombra Township on the Sydenham river some fourteen miles above Wallaceburg In the earlier days it was a great lumbering centre named after a Mr John Wilkes who operated in the timber trade at that time It still retains the business places of a small village.

WILSONCROFT

A post office opened on Lot 26, Con. 9, Enniskillen, called after a Mr Wilson at whose house it was held. It ceased to operate with the coming of rural mail delivery

WISHEACH

A post office situate on Lo 28, Con. 1 S. E. R. Warwick. It was opened in 1854. First located on Lot 30 Con. 1 S. E. R. Mr. Bowes was first postmaste and on his death Mrs Bowes received the appointment and held the position untill the closing of the offic It was named after a place called Wisbeach in England.

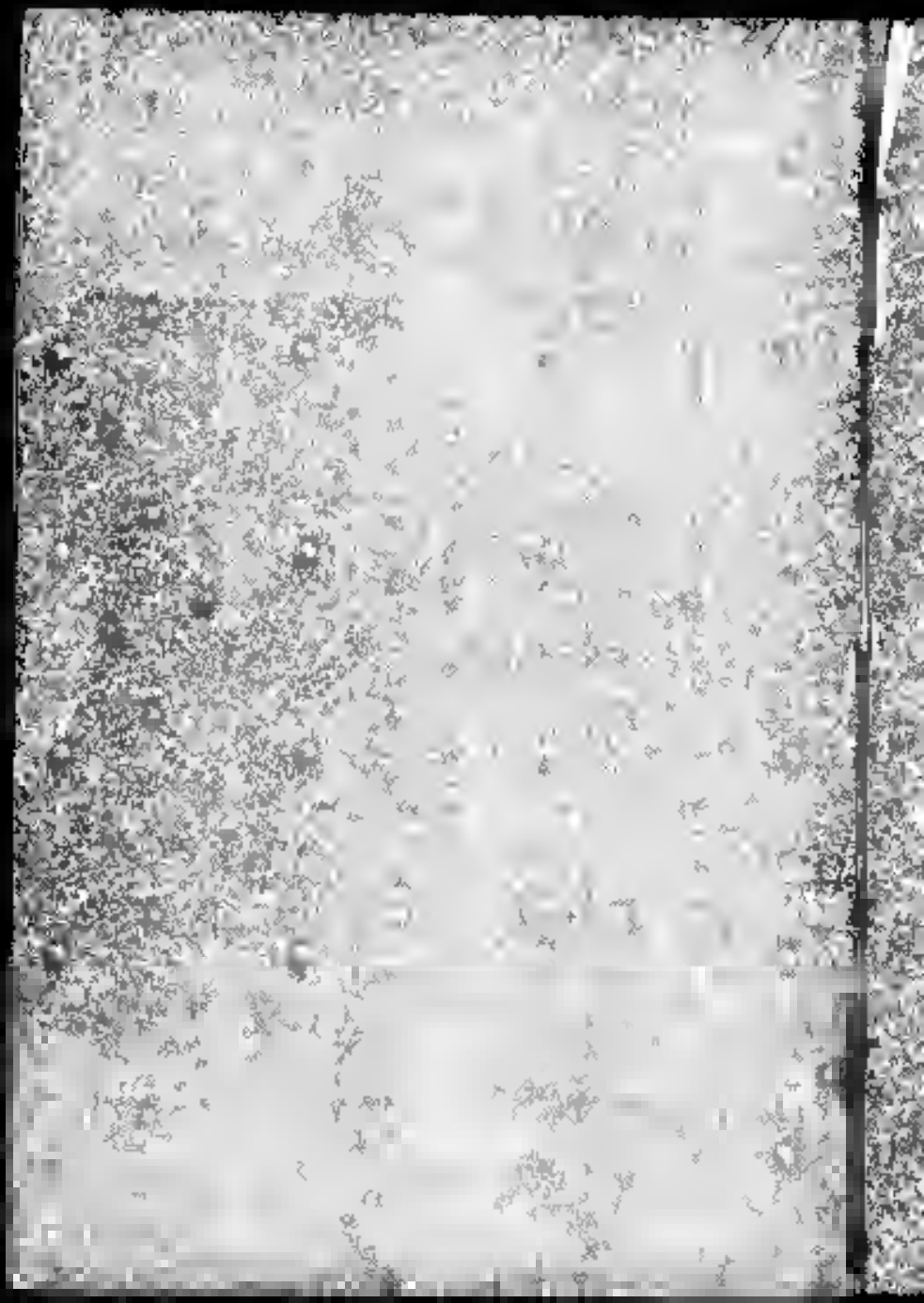
WOODTICK ISLAND

Name formerly borne by Fawn Island, and so called from insect life that infested the Island at one time.

WYOMING.

A village, which by the 1921 census shows a populat on of 482, situate on the C N R some 14 miles east of Sarnia and north east from Petro a 5 miles The word itself is derived from the Indian tongue and means "The Large Plains. In the State of Pennsyl vania lies a town and valley named Wyoming rendered famous from Campbell's beautiful poem Gertrude of Wyoming and as the early oil prospectors who came to Oil Springs "treked" their equipment from the site of the present Wyoming the most reasonable conclusion is they gave th n paint the name of their home town.

ALONG LAKE H SHORE DRIVE



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Johnston, A. J.
Lambton County maps
and plans

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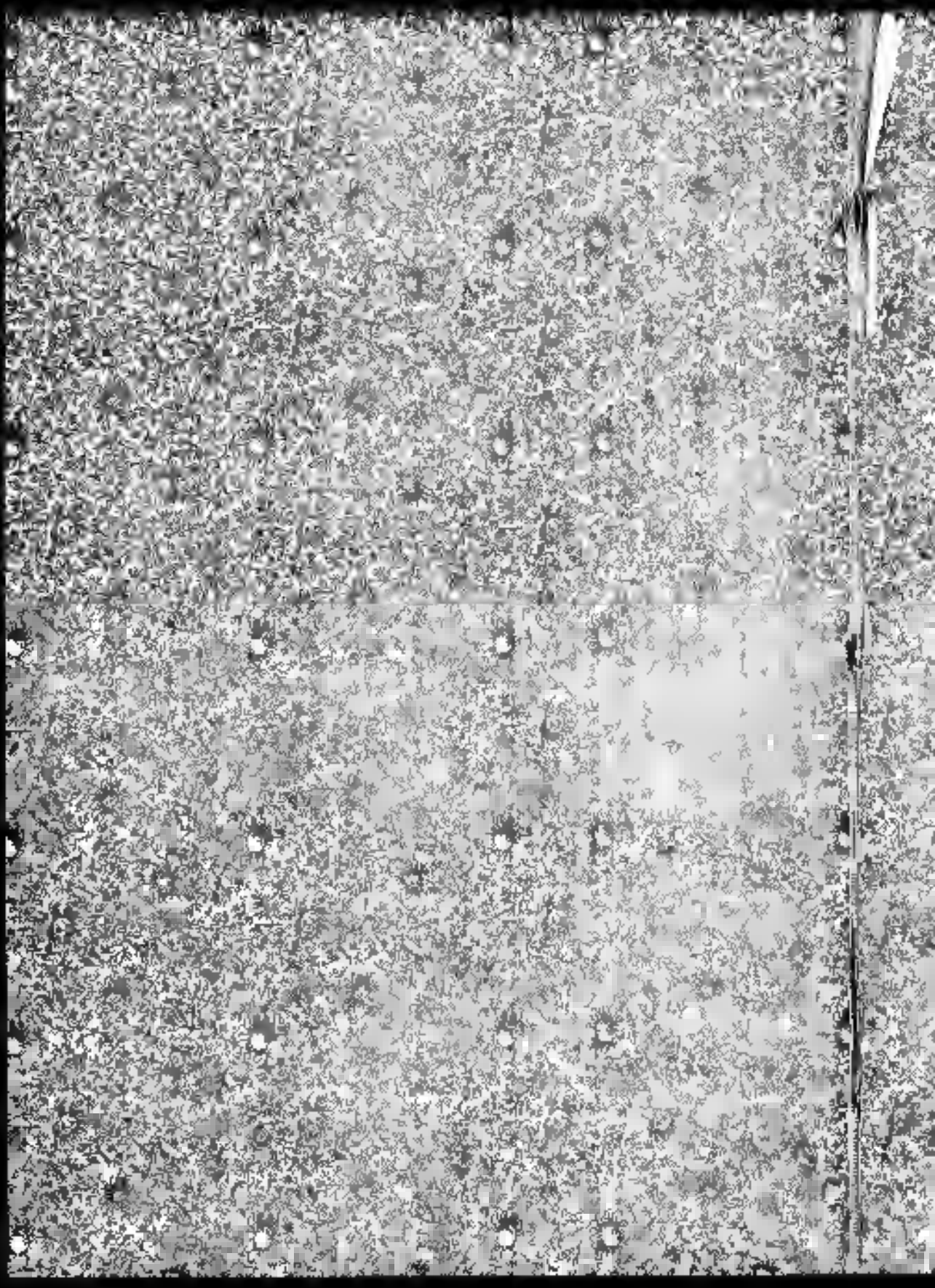

Compliments
P. J. Johnston

LAMBTON COUNTY
NAMES AND PLACES

COMPILED BY
A J JOHNSTON

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PUBLISHED BY
LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL
1925

DANIEL FRASER MACWATT
COUNTY JUDGE 1898 1920

INTRODUCTORY

IN submitting this history of the names and places in Lambton County it would be unfair to not place the credit for the original idea of recording and perpetuating the story of Lambton County where it belongs

Early in the year of 1920 the late Daniel Fraser McWatt, the then Senior Judge of Lambton County had gathered much of the data of the records in this book contained but before he had an opportunity of compiling it, he was called by death. Since that time the writer has gradually gathered together the information on the name places, and I now give it to the public for what it is worth

The reader will appreciate the difficulty of getting authentic data regarding many places and if in some instances it differs from the knowledge you already have you will know that reports of our correspondents vary somewhat, and in each case the most strongly supported report has been accepted.

The main object of these chronicles is to preserve the story of the names and places in Lambton County many of which places have even now ceased to exist and in a few years, as the present residents pass away will be entirely forgotten.

The research work involved in securing the required information for this history has been extremely interesting and while it has been somewhat imperfectly compiled yet we trust it will recall many pleasant memories to the elder people and be a source of information to the rising generation

A. J JOHNSTON

Sheriff's Office,
Sarnia, April 20th 1925.

ALBERT J. JOHNSTON
SHERIFF
LAURENS COUNTY

Lambton County Names and Places

IT will be found by perusing the pages of this book that it narrates the formative period of Lambton County and a short history of its names and places, and in order that the reader may know the precise location of the county and places hereinafter mentioned we herewith give its boundaries and something of their history.

Lambton County is situated along the extreme south western shore line of Lake Huron, this lake in fact forms its entire northern and northwesterly boundary; on the east lies the county of Middlesex, on the south the County of Kent, with the exception of the south westerly portion which is bounded by the Snycarte River. Its entire western boundary being the St. Clair River.

Champlain saw Lake Huron for the first time in 1617 and he called the lake "Mer Douce" or sweet sea, referring to the waters not being salt. The old Indian name of Lake Huron was "Karegnondi." This name was given by the Hurons to the lake. The Iroquois name was "Canatara," later on some of the French maps called the lake Lake Orleans and later still the name is given in French Maps as Lake Michigan or Huron, and afterwards the maps differentiate lake Michigan and Huron and show them as separate lakes.

Middlesex, the eastern boundary, was named after Middlesex, England. Kent County, on the south, was named after the Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria.

Snycarte is a corruption of Chenal-e-Carte, or lost channel. This name appears in very early maps and no doubt was given by some of the early French explorers. The Snycarte separates Lambton County and Walpole Island, and as it nears Wallaceburg joins the Sydenham river, eventually flowing into Lake St. Clair.

River St. Clair, the western boundary, together with Lake St. Clair, were so named by LaSalle and Hennapin in 1679 when they sailed northward over these waters. They crossed Lake St. Clair on St. Clare's day, and for that reason named the lake and river. It was afterwards changed to St. Clair in common usage. The Indian name of Lake St. Clair was "Oti Kita," and the Indian name of St. Clair River was "Ottissiadippi."

Lambton County

THE territory now called by the name of The County of Lambton was originally part of The District of Hesse which was bounded according to the Proclamation of his Excellency the Governor-General Guy Lord Dorchester dated 24th July 1788, in the twenty eighth year of the reign of His Majesty George III, as follows

"The District of Hesse which is to comprehend all the residue of our said Province in the Western or inland parts thereof, of the entire breadth thereof from the Southerly to the Northerly boundaries of the same."

As the District of Nassau was the next District to Hesse in the East and extended "so far Westerly as to a North and South line intersecting the extreme projection of Long Point into the Lake Erie on the Northerly side of said Lake Erie" the District of Hesse took in all the rest of the lands to the West of Long Point

By 31 George III (Imperial) Chapter 31 (1791) section 14 the Lieutenant-Governor in the absence of the Governor General received power to divide the Province into Counties or Districts In pursuance of this Act his Excellency the Lieutenant Governor Colonel John Graves Simcoe by proclamation dated 16th July 1792 divided the Province of Upper Canada into nineteen Counties namely Glengarry, Stormont, Dundas Grenville Leeds Frontenac, Ontario, Addington Lennox Prince Edward Hastings Northumberland Durham, York Lincoln Norfolk Suffolk Essex Kent, the nineteenth being called by the name of The County of Kent which County is to comprehend all the Country (not being Territories of the Indians) not already included in the several Counties hereinbefore described extending Northward to the boundary line of Hudsons Bay including all the territory to the Westward and Southward of the said line, to the utmost extent of the country commonly called or known by the name of Canada

The County of Essex was the adjoining County to Kent and its Westerly boundary is described in Governor Simcoe's Proclamation as bounded on the west by the River Detroit to Marsouvilla a Mill from thence by a line running parallel to the River Detroit and Lake St Clair at the distance of four miles until it meets the River La Tranche or Thames and thence up the said River to the North west boundary of the County of Suffolk.

All the territory therefore now known as the County of Lambton was then part of the County of Kent which by Proclamation was to be represented by two members in the Legislative Assembly of Canada but by the Redistribution Act (Upper Canada) 40 George III Chapter 2 passed 4th July 1800 the County of Kent was to be represented by one member only

By 32 George III. (Upper Canada) Chapter 8, section 5, passed 15th October 1792 the name of the District was changed, and thereafter it was called The Western District.

By 38 George III Chapter 5 (1798) assented to 1st January 1800, Essex and Kent, together with so much of the Province as is not included within any other District thereof, were formed into the Western District.

By 2 George IV Chapter 3 Section 12 passed 14th April 1821 (being the first Session in that year) The following NEW Townships in the Western District were attached to the County of Kent namely: the Townships of Zone, Dawn, Sombra and Saint Clair. The last named Township was changed to Sarnia probably in Sir John Colborne's time, 1839, as that was the Roman name of the Island of Guernsey, with which Sir John was identified.

By 4 William IV. Chapter 55 (1834) assented to 6th May, 1835 which recited that certain tract of land situate in the Western District * * * had been lately surveyed and laid off into Townships, the Townships of Moore and Sarnia (formerly St. Clair), Plympton, Enniskillen, Warwick, Brooke and Bosanquet were attached to and formed part of the County of Kent in the Western District.

The Revised Statutes of 1841 contain no mention of Lambton and reprint the Act of 1821, 2 George IV. Chapter 3, as being in full force.

By 4 and 5 Victoria, Chapter 10 (1841), which went into operation 1st January, 1842, a District Council for the Western District was formed, and it met for the first time at Sandwich on 11th February, 1842, representatives being present from Essex and Kent, in which latter County, as we have seen, the territory now known as Lambton County then formed a part.

By 10 and 11 Victoria, Chapter 39, assented to 9th July, 1847, the County of Kent ceased to be part of the Western District, and became known as the District of Kent.

By 12 Victoria, Chapter 78, assented to 30th May, 1849, Districts were abolished and by section 30 Kent and Lambton were formed as provisional Counties, and by section 31 as soon as the Court House and Gaol then in the course of being erected shall have been completed, the Governor of the Province may issue a Proclamation dissolving the union between the United Counties of Kent and Lambton and the County of Essex, and from thenceforth the said United Counties of Kent and Lambton shall form a union of Counties. This is the first time the name "Lambton" as a County appears officially.

Under this Act certain Counties were to remain united until the Junior County should have a population of not less than fifteen thousand souls, (section 10) in which case it became entitled to a separate establishment of Court and County Institutions. Kent and Lambton were so united as we have seen, Lambton being the Junior County, but from its geographical position it was deemed expedient to make provision for its separation before it had attain-

ed the population required by law to entitle it to sever the judicial union between it and the County of Kent.

By 12 Victoria, Chapter 79 assented to May 30th 1849 the County of Lambton was declared to include the Townships of Brooke, Dawn, Bosanquet, Enniskillen, Euphemia, Moore, Plympton, Sarnia, Sombra and Warwick and were united with Kent for the purpose of representation in the Legislative Assembly of Canada and a union of Counties made between Kent, Lambton and Essex.

The County of Kent withdrew in 1851 and Essex and Lambton were then known as "The United Counties of Essex and Lambton," the municipal Capital being at Sandwich now the County seat of the County of Essex.

In 1914 the Dominion Archivist Dr. Doughty published the Constitutional History of Canada from 1791 to 1818 in which there is a map of Upper Canada drawn by W. Chewett, D. P. surveyor by order of His Excellency John Graves Simcoe the Lieutenant Governor of Upper Canada which shows the County of Kent as referred to in the Proclamation of 1792. It extended from the mouth of the Detroit River Northeastwards to the Westerly boundary of the County of Hastings on the Trent River and North as far as the North Pole seemingly. It also took in what are now Michigan and Illinois, as well as Lakes Michigan and Superior and even west of that as far as Canada then extended. Certainly the County of Kent was the largest County in Canada in those days.

The County of Suffolk is now part of the Counties of Kent and Elgin.

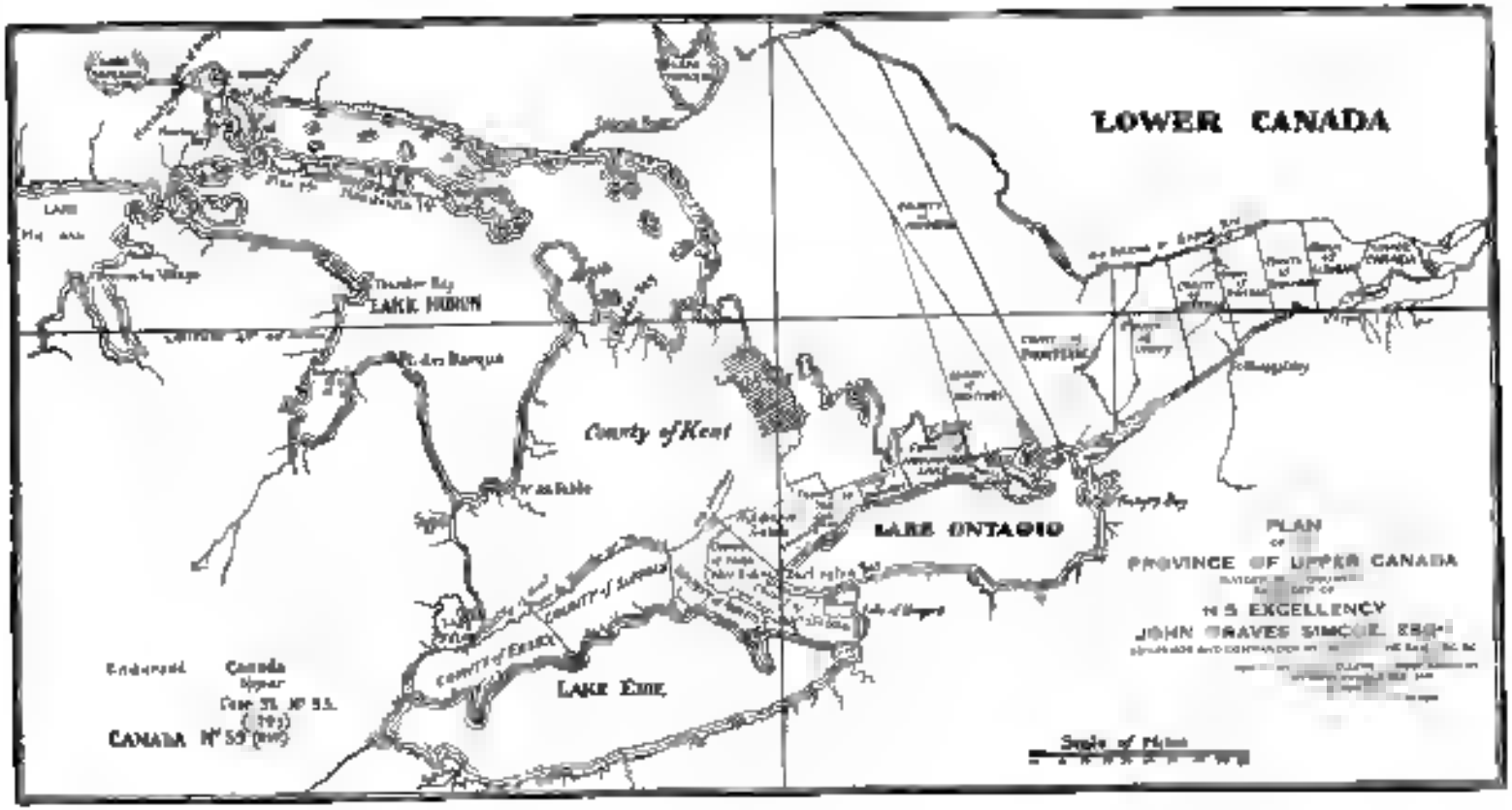
A reproduction of this very interesting map on a small scale will be found contained herein.

The County of Lambton first appears in 12 Victoria, Chapter 78 (1849) sections 30 and 31 and was then first officially recognized by the Legislature. Prior to that the territory forming what is now the County of Lambton was included in Kent County. There is nothing to show that it was officially recognized before that year. In the Minutes of the District Council (the Western District) composed of the Counties of Kent and Essex from 1842 to 1849 the name Lambton does not appear.

In 1841 there were petitions presented asking that the Northern Townships of Kent be erected into a separate District and a Bill was reported but no effective action was taken by the Legislature.

Other petitions were presented to the same effect in 1844-45 and also in 1846 and 1847 but no action was taken thereon evidently except on those presented in January 1845 by which the petitioners desired the new District to be known as "Moore" and a bill to give effect to this was brought in which reached a second reading and then was given the six months hoist.

In March 1848 another petition was presented, and according to the Journals of the House for that year, the petitioners were H


LOWER CANADA
LAKE HURON
County of Kent
LAKE ONTARIO
LAKE ERIE
PLAN
OF
PROVINCE OF UPPER CANADA
HIS EXCELLENCY
JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE, ESQ.
Scale of Miles

Jones and others of Enniskillen Township and others from Townships in the Western District praying that a new District be set apart with Port Sarnia as the District Town

In 1850 petitions were presented from the Townships of Enniskillen Dawn Brooke and Euphemia praying that the Act establishing the County (clearly 12 Victoria Chapter 79 of 1849) be amended so as to place the County town in Enniskillen and a counter petition from Port Sarnia was also presented that the prayer of the petition be not granted but that the County Town be located in Port Sarnia which latter evidently had its effect

The librarian of the Legislative Assembly Toronto Mr Avern Pardoe gives a very feasible reason why the name Lambton County like Topsy growed instead of being officially born in the usual way

Under the Union Act of 1840 each Provinces (Upper and Lower Canada) had to have an equal number of members and each had sixty five in the Legislative Assembly The Canadian Parliament did not possess the power to alter this except by increasing the number in both Provinces. Hence the Representation by Population agitation as the population of Upper Canada at first less than that of Lower Canada, outgrew the latter

One of the consequences of this state of affairs was that a new County could not be formed in the rapidly growing west of the Province of Upper Canada, until a seat could be established in the slowly growing Eastern Provinces

It is quite likely that the formation of Lambton County had been decided upon and its name unofficially determined but that the step could not go into effect until a seat in the East had been arranged

There are on record instances in which there have been sharp rivalries between different localities for the name of the new Governor

That name furnishes an easy reference to the date of the formation of a County or other municipality In the case of Lambton it excludes everything before 1838, the year Earl Durham was Governor

Mr Pardoe further points out, that while there is nothing to show that Lambton was recognized officially till 1849 between 1838 and 1849 there are facts which show that it was not. The Act forbidding spearing of fish 6 Victoria Chapter 13 (1843) refers to among others the Counties of Essex and Kent if there had been a Lambton County it would certainly have applied to it And also that Moore was suggested by petition in 1845.

While however there is nothing prior to 1849 on the subject Chapter 11 of that year may referentially bear on it

That Act recites that whereas the Union Act, 1840 required Townships to be erected by Proclamation the erection of Townships in Upper Canada had been done according to the pre-Union Act method without any Proclamation, presumably under 31 George

III (Imperial) 1791 second 14, which authorized the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to divide the Province into Counties or Districts.

The power being Imperial legislation could not be interfered with except by the Imperial Parliament and as they continued to act under the old powers with respect to Townships, they probably continued to do so as to Counties also. Besides which the publication of Orders-in-Council was in those days more honored in the breach than in the observance being exceedingly spasmodic and capricious.

The minutes of the Municipal Council of the Western District were not kept from the first meeting held on the 11th February 1842 until October 1846. Printed minutes are in existence from the latter date and on a perusal of the volume containing the minutes from October 1846, to the end of 1849 the name Lambton is not mentioned in any part of it.

Many attempts were made to have the District divided (or a new District formed) containing the Northern Townships of the County of Kent between 1841 and 1849 but no name seems to have been given to it. I think it is quite evident the petitions did not contain a name subsequent to 1841 except in 1845 when Moore was proposed but not accepted and until the County of Lambton was mentioned in 12 Victoria, Chapters 78 and 79 passed in 1849 it does not appear. No Order inCouncil has been found as yet but as the Indices are wanting we cannot see far to find any Order-in-Council calling the territory by the name County of Lambton, if such were ever passed.

The following are extracted from the minutes of the Western District Council.

On the 6th October 1846 Mr Larwill who was the representative from Raleigh Township in the County of Kent, gave notice of a petition on Friday next from the inhabitants of Kent relative to a division of the District. That was on the first day of the session. On the 9th October the fourth day, he asked leave to defer his petition on the subject of a division of the District. On October 16th he presented a petition praying a division of the District, which was adopted but the petition does not appear in the minutes.

On the 2nd February, 1847 the first day of the session, Mr Durand who was the representative from Sarnia Township seconded by Mr Girty the representative from Gosfield Township in the County of Essex, moved that Messrs Durand Hyde Johnston and Larwill Hyde being the representative from Plympton and Johnston from Sombra, be appointed a committee to draft a petition to the Legislature to divide the County of Kent into two Districts.

On the 12th October, 1847 Mr Hyde moved seconded by Mr Fisher, representative from Moore and Enniskillen that the Committee appointed last session to draft a petition to the Legislature to divide the County of Kent into two Districts, have leave to act

SIR JOHN COLBORNE
LIEUT G V I C 1828 1838
GOVR GEN OF CANADA 1839 TO 1840

this session. Later in the day Mr. Hyde moved, seconded by Mr. Johnston, that the Committee appointed in the February session to draft a petition to the Legislature to make the County of Kent into two Districts, be allowed to make their report at the next session of the Council and these were carried.

On the 4th February 1848 Mr. Durand of the committee to draft a petition to the Legislature for the formation of the ten townships of the County of Kent into a new District, presented the draft of a petition.

Mr. Hyde moved seconded by Mr. McLeod representative from Malden in Essex County that the draft of petition presented by Mr. Durand be adopted.

Mr. Larwill moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Thompson that the petition be not adopted. (They were evidently not well up in Parliamentary procedure, as the amendment was simply a negative and should not have been allowed). The amendment being put the HOUSE (so called in the minutes) was counted and the votes for and against the amendment were as follows.—For the amendment—Allan (Anderdon) Crow (Chatham) Duck (Howard) Hetherington (Romney) Johnston (Sombra) Larwill (Raleigh) Mitchell (Dover) Ruddle (Deputy Reeve Howard) Simpson (Tilbury East) James Smith (Dawn) Thompson (Harwich) and Young (Deputy Reeve Harwich)—12. Against it—Messrs. Baby (Deputy Reeve Sandwich) Browe (Maidstone) Campbell (Warwick) Cherron (Rochester) Desjardines (Tilbury West) Durand (Sarnia) Fisher (Moore and Enniskillen) Girly (Gosfield) Henry (Orford) Hyde (Plympton) Kelrhnm (Rosanquet) Mellot (Mersea) McLeod (Deputy Reeve Malden) and Wright (Colchester)—15.

However the members in opposition got to their fine work later. On the fifth day afterwards the 9th February when all but one of those in favor were away Mr. Larwill moved seconded by Mr. Thompson that the resolution requiring the District Clerk to present a petition to the House of Assembly praying for re-division of the District of Kent be and the same is hereby rescinded which carried.

The twelve who were there on the fourth and voted that the petition be not adopted were present and voted. The only one in opposition present was Mr. Hyde, the other fourteen being absent.

On 6th October 1848 the House went into committee of the whole upon petitions from Plympton Sarnia and Warwick and on the motion of Mr. James Smith representative from Dawn, seconded by Mr. Duck representative from Howard in Kent County the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved that this Council are of opinion that the present Act of the Provincial Parliament setting off the new District of Kent should be so amended that the ten Northern Townships, consisting of Warwick, Bosanquet, Brooke, Plympton, Sarnia, Moore, Enniskillen, Sombra, Zone and Dawn, should constitute a New District

or such other equitable division as the House may see fit so soon as they shall have a population of 7 000 and consider themselves competent to defray the expenses of a New District at which time the District of Kent shall repay to said Northern Townships such sum or sums of money as they shall have contributed towards the erection of the public buildings in the District of Kent and that the site for the public buildings in the New District to be composed of said Northern Townships shall be in the Township of Enniskillen and selected by the Councillors of said Townships and that a committee be appointed to draft a petition to the Legislature in accordance with this Resolution.

Mr Fisher then moved seconded by Mr James Smith that Messrs Duck Mitchell Hyde Fisher and Smith be a committee to draft the said petition which was carried

On the 7th October Mr James Smith chairman of the committee to draft a petition to the Legislature in accordance with the resolution of yesterday concerning the ten Northern Townships, presented the following draft of a petition which was adopted.

TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE PROVINCE OF CANADA IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

The Petition of the District Council of the Western District in Council assembled

HUMBLY SHEWETH

That the present Act of the Provincial Parliament setting aside the new District of Kent, ought in the opinion of this Council to be amended by setting apart the ten Northern Townships of said District viz Sosanquet Plympton Warwick Sarnia Brooke Enniskillen Moore Sombra Dawn and Zone (or such other equitable division as your Honourable House may deem fit) which would constitute a New District as soon as the population shall amount to 7 000 and they shall consider themselves able to defray the expenses of a New District at which time the District of Kent should repay to the aforesaid Townships such sums of money as they may have contributed towards the erection of the public buildings in the District of Kent. They are also of opinion that the site of the public buildings for the proposed New District should be in the Township of Enniskillen and selected by the Councillors of the above named ten Townships Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the above-mentioned Act may be amended in conformity with the prayer of this petition

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray etc

On the 28th day of February 1852 a Provisional County was authorized by order of the Governor-in-Council and on the 15th day of April 1852 the first meeting of the Provisional Council of the County of Lambton was held at Port Sarnia, now Sarnia Thomas Fisher of Moore, being elected Provisional Warden It had not yet the full Status of a County Council as the union with Essex still subsisted

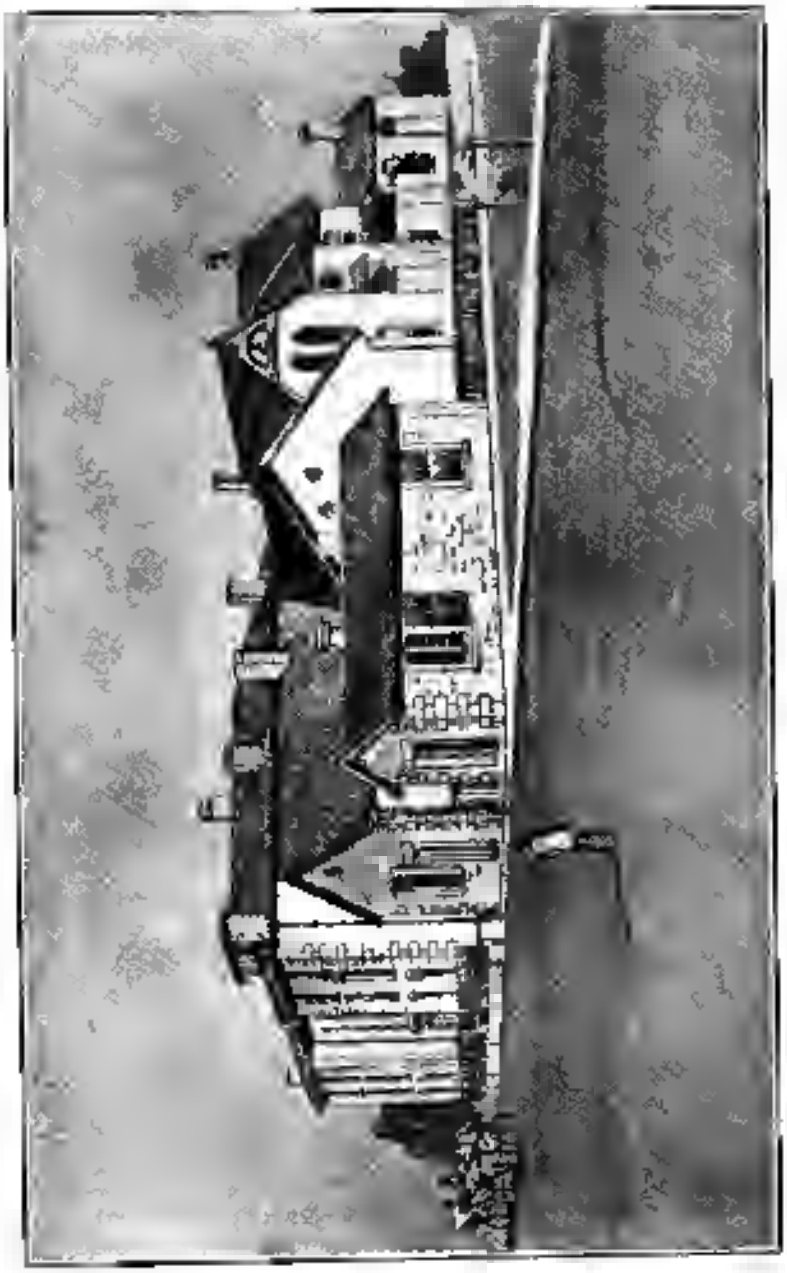
EARL OF DURHAM
GOV. GEN. OF CANADA 1838-1841

On the 30th September 1853 the union between Essex and Lambton was dissolved by order of the Administrator-in-Council and on the 24th day of October 1853 the first meeting of the County Council of the County of Lambton took place at Port Sarnia now Sarnia and from the 30th day of September 1853 the County had the full status of a County Council

From the 15th day of April 1852 to October 24th 1853 the Warden was called Provisional Warden Mr Thomas Fisher being the first to occupy that position during the year 1852. He was succeeded by Mr Henry Glass who was elected Provisional Warden in January 1853 but having been unseated or having resigned, it is not clear which his successful opponent in Sarnia Township Mr Archibald Young was elected Provisional Warden in June 1853 and held that office until 24th October 1853 and from that date until the election of his successor in January 1854 held the office of Warden under the Act 13 and 14 Victoria (1850) Chapter 64 Section 12 He was succeeded in January 1854 by his former opponent Mr Henry Glass

The partial municipal independence, therefore of Lambton dates from the year 1852 when it withdrew from its connection with Essex for except County Council purposes and was formed into a Provisional County Its full independence dates from 30th September 1853 when it became a complete County

By 16 Victoria Chapter 152 (1853) the County of Lambton was formed into an electoral division (up to the time it was joined to Kent for Parliamentary purposes) to take effect after the end of the then present Provincial Parliament which came into force at the general elections held in 1854.



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Parliamentary Representatives

IT is only when one delves into the history of the County that it is discovered what a prominent place her sons and her representatives have held, not only locally but in provincial affairs. Space forbids us (neither is it the aim of this book) to carry Biographical sketches, but it is questionable if there is any other county in the Dominion that can show such a record especially one that has had as representatives or an official two Prime Ministers of Canada, one prime minister of the Province of Ontario and several Cabinet Ministers.

The following is a list of Lambton's Representatives in the Dominion Parliament and Legislative Assembly, including the period when Lambton was united with Kent.

Legislative Council

Hon. George Jarvis Goodhue, 1842-1867
Hon. Malcolm Cameron, 1860-1863
Hon. Alexander Vidal, 1863-1867

Legislative Assembly

Hon. Malcolm Cameron, 1848-1854-1858-1860
*Hon. George Brown, 1851-1857
Hope Fleming Mackenzie, 1859-1861
*Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, 1871-1867
*Became Prime Minister of Canada

House of Commons

FOR COUNTY

Hon. Alexander Mackenzie

WEST RIDING

Hon. James Frederick Lister, Q.C., 1882-1898
Dr. Thomas G. Johnston, 1898-1905.
Frederick Forsyth Pardee, K. C., 1906-1921
Richard Vryling LeSueur, 1921

EAST RIDING

John H. Fairbank, 1882-1887
George Monerief, 1887-1896.
John Fraser, 1896-1900
Oliver Simmons, 1900-1902
Joseph E. Armstrong, 1904-1921
Bert Fancher, 1921-

Legislative Assembly—Ontario

FOR COUNTY

Hon. Timothy Blair Pardee Q C 1867-1875

WEST LAMBTON

xHon Timothy Blair Pardee Q C 1875-1889
Charles Mackenzie, 1890-1894
Alfred T Conrad 1894-1898
Frederick Forsyth Pardee K C 1898-1902
xHon William John Hanna K C 1902-1918
Jonah Monrehouse Webster 1918-1923
Wilfrid Smith Haney 1923-
xOccupied position of Cabinet Ministers

EAST LAMBTON

Peter Graham 1875-1890
Hugh Mackenzie 1890-1893
Peter D McCallum 1893-1898
Henry John Pettypiece 1898-1905
Hugh Montgomery 1905-1908
Robert John McCormick 1908-1914
Dr John Burton Martyn 1914-1919
Leslie Oke 1919-

Senators

Hon. Alexander Vidal 1873-1906
xHon George William Ross, 1907-1914
Hon Frederick Forsythe Pardee 1922-
xPrime Minister of Ontario.

Names and Places

ABERARDER

This little village is located on Lot 8 Con 10 Township of Plympton being a station on the Canadian National Railway twenty miles from Sarnia and five from Camlachie It was settled in 1863 by Alex Hamilton The first post office was established there in 1863 with D McLean as first postmaster It was so called after Aberarder in Scotland It no longer operates as a post office being closed with the coming of rural mail delivery

ABERFELDY

A post office situated on Townline of Brooke and Enphemia Townships more correctly on lot 34 concession 6 Euphemia It was so named by Wm Armstrong for many years clerk of Euphemia Township after a place in Scotland John Grant was the first postmaster It is one of the few rural post offices still operating

ALVINSTON

A village situate on the Canada Southern Railway, or what is now known as the Michigan Central Railway It is distant about 35 miles from Sarnia and about 10 miles almost due south from Watford and is in the Township of Brooke. It has a population of some 800 souls and is pleasantly situated in the centre of a fine agricultural district peopled by exceedingly thrifty families

The history of Alvinston dates back to a period prior to 1839 when one Archibald Gardiner uncle of the Gardiner Brothers Hardware Merchants of Sarnia established a saw mill on the east side of Bear Creek operating it until with the Mormon migration he went to Nauvoo Illinois At this time the place was known as Gardiner's Mill Later on mills were built on the west side of the river and operated by a Mr J W Brennan and the place for some time was called Brennan's Mills Following this period the little village was named Alvinston The best information that can be obtained is that it was so named after a village on the Isle of Wight called Alverstone Just why it was changed to Alvinston is not apparent In its early days Alvinston was only a postal village on the travelled postal road which ran from Watford to Florence and its mail service was supplied from this source

Alvinston still remains a thriving village with well-kept business places comfortable homes and fine churches.

ARKONA

This history of the settlement of Arkona dates from 1821 During that year Asa Townsend located on a tract of three hundred and ninety acres of land which he obtained from the Government.

As early as 1859 the territory hereabout had become so thickly settled as to assume somewhat the appearance of a village In 1876 it was created a village

It is one of the most pleasantly situated villages in Lambton County it is close to the Aux Sauble River and the beautiful spot known as Rock Glen which is later described in this booklet

Prior to 1850 it was known as Eastman's Corners. About this date an agitation arose to have the name changed (it now being on the proposed line of the G T R.) A public meeting was called and from many suggested names Arkona was selected. If our information is correct it was named after Akron, Ohio, but the party suggesting the name spelled it A r k o-n-a and when the proper spelling was discovered the people preferred the name as given Arkona. The first postmaster was Joseph Hilborn and the first post office opened in 1851 While not situated on the railroad (the first survey being changed to run some 6 miles north) it is a very thriving village, surrounded as it is by a good farming and fruit country

ATKIN

Rural post office opened at Lot 24 Con 2 Euphemia, in 1897 So named after the first postmaster Richard Atkin It passed with the coming of rural mail delivery

AUGHRIM

A rural post office first opened at what was known as Lower Aughrim in the Township of Euphemia. The first postmaster was Andrew Bell and was named after Aughrim in Ireland The post office was later removed to the home of John McKinnie reeve of the township of Brooke which lay farther north As a post office it passed out with the opening of the Aberfeldy office At Lower Aughrim the Anglican Church alone remains to claim the name

AUX SAUBLES

The name of the river bounding the north eastern portion of Lambton County and flowing into Lake Huron at Grand Bend The name means "The River of Sands. The scenery along the banks of this river at some points is very picturesque and at no place more so than around Arkona.

AVONROY

A post office situated on Lot 16 Con 14 Sombra Township Peter Grant was first postmaster and the office bore its name from the farm on which Mr Grant was born in Invernesshire Scotland. It also ceased to operate with the introduction of rural mail delivery

BABY'S POINT

The extreme south westerly portion of the Township of Sombra, so named after the Baby family who early settled there.

BEAVER MEADOW

A post office opened in 1900 at the head of Booth Creek Lot 25 Con. 1, Township of Dawn, so named by Wm Nesbitt, from the beaver dams built there First postmaster Delbert Young It no longer operates a a post office

BEECHER

Situated on the north branch of the Sydenham River Lot 18 Concession 7 Township of Sombra. First opened as a post office about 1865 and named by the Postal Department after Henry C. R. Beecher a gentleman who owned considerable land in the County

A store the Orange Hall and Anglican Church today comprise the village It is still operated as a post office having two rural routes and distribution Beecher's mail service is delivered from Wallaceburg

BENTPATH

A post office opened on Lot 21 Con. 4 Township of Dawn, about 1898 named after a path in Scotland John McLachlan was the first postmaster

BICKFORD

A post office opened at Watson Station on the Pere Marquette Railway named after Mr E O Bickford one of the officials of the old Erie & Huron Railway The Postal Department declining the name of Watson there being another post office bearing that name in Canada

BIRNBAM

A post office situate Lot 19 Con. 5 N E R Township of Warwick supposed to be named after a small place in Scotland A Gaelic word meaning "Hero's House."

BIRKHALL

A post office located on Lot 7 Con 6 Moore Township, with John McKenzie as postmaster It passed out with the opening of Seckerton It owes its name to English origin

BLACKWELL

A station on the Canadian National Railway, seven miles east of Sarnia Is called after Thomas E Blackwell an Englishman He was by profession a civil engineer became Managing Director of the Grand Trunk Railway and from 1857 to 1862, the General Manager of that Railway in Canada.

BLUE POINT

A somewhat pronounced point on Lake Huron, situate opposite Lot 37, Front Concession Plympton Township On old marine charts it was known as Point Harris Probably bears its name from the high banks of blue clay that extend out into the lake at this point.

BOSANQUET

Occupies a more northerly position than any other portion of Lambton It is one of the east tier Townships and is notated in its position by its bordering Lake Huron on the north west It reduces in width and reaches a more point at the northern extremity Bosanquet contains about seventy five thousand acres including two Indian Reserves, on the shore of Lake Huron aggregating about six thousand acres The first settlers in Bosanquet Township arrived about 1833.

For the greater part the township is rich and fertile, though having some waste portions as it nears the northern apex It s shore line makes a beautiful drive from Kettle Point to Port Frank the sands of the beach being so firm as to make a beautiful roadway It was named after Mr Charles Bosanquet who was the first President of the Canada Company which Company owned a goodly portion of this Township. It s population in 1921 was twenty three hundred and thirty two

BRADSHAW

A post office opened at Lot 26 Con 15 Township of Sombra. The first postmaster was Wm Bradshaw after whom it was named not now operating

BREWSTER

The name at one time borne by the Lambton section of Grand Bend called after a Mr Brewster a mill owner at the point It operated for some time as a post office

BRIGDEN

A thriving police village in the Township of Moore situated on the M C R. So named after John Brigden one of the Canada Southern Railway engineers who surveyed the road It has several good stores churches and a thrifty population of about three hundred and is the centre of a thriving agricultural district

BROOKE

This township was named after Sir James Brooke, whose exploits from 1837 to 1847 in establishing a British Protectorate in a portion of Borneo made him the popular hero of the day The township was surveyed by Samuel Smith in 1832 and opened for sale in the latter part of 1833 a very large portion of it being taken up by the United Empire Loyalists.

It is one of the eastern tier of townships Its soil generally speaking is clay loam and with ditching and proper drainage has become one of the most productive townships in Ontario. The main branch of the Sydenham river commonly known as Bear Creek, traverses in an uneven course the south east corner of the township and several branches of the same meander through the whole eastern half the western portion being free from streams.

Registry Office—1904

Its homes, schools, churches and general appearance denote thrift and plenty.

Brooke has an area of 74,049 acres and its population by the 1921 census was 2703.

BUNYAN

A post office situate on the Second Concession of Sarnia Township. It was opened about 1875 at the residence of Ebenezer Watson, a pioneer of this township who settled there in 1856. Mr. Watson became the first postmaster. This settlement was largely of the Baptist faith, Mr. Watson being a Baptist and named it Bunyan after John Bunyan, famous as the author of "Pilgrim's Progress." A Baptist Church still bears the name Bunyan, though the post office is no longer operating.

BURNS

Situate at the corner of the 12th Concession of Moore and 18th sideroad. Burns Presbyterian Church is known the country side over. It was so named after the Rev. William Burns, who established and opened the church. Mr. Burns was one of the first Professors of Knox College.

CAIRO

A village in the Township of Enphemia. Until recent years it bore the name Sutherland's Corners after the Sutherland family. The length of this name caused a petition to be sent to the Postal Department for a change of name. Cairo was the name finally given, probably after Cairo, Egypt, or Cairo, Missouri, just which is not made clear in the records before us.

CAMLACHIE

A small village in the Township of Plympton, on the C. N. R. some twenty miles from Sarnia. It was founded by one Duncan McDonald in 1862, and named after his birth place in Scotland, now a ward or part of the City of Glasgow.

This village contains three churches, several stores and many cosy comfortable homes, and caters splendidly to the needs of a thrifty community.

CHEMATAGON

A point in the St. Clair River. This is called by navigators "Jimmie Tagan." It is a small channel separating Squirrel Island from Walpole Island, it empties nearly at right angles to the waters of the St. Clair River and is very winding. In Indian tongue it means a stream that runs away from another. This you will see is very appropriate.

CHARLEMONT

A post office in the Township of Sombra, named after a barracks in Ireland. The first postmaster was Andrew Brown. Like most other rural post offices it no longer operates, but a general store still bears the name and marks the place where the post office first opened.

COLINVILLE

Lot 14 Con. 9 Moore Township, opened as a post office about 1840 and continued until the coming of rural mail delivery. So named after Colin McDermott, an early settler and at one time mail carrier.

COPLESTON

The name given to the post office operating in the village of Marthaville there being another post office bearing the name Marthaville in Canada. To avoid confusion, the postal department gave the name Copleston. The property on which Marthaville now stands was owned by Richard Smith who surveyed it into village lots. He was an Englishman and a builder by trade and when a name was asked for the post office he suggested Copplestone which reduced to Copleston was accepted.

COREY

A station and post office on M. C. R. just south of Petrolia. Named after Harrison Corey, a prominent oil men of Petrolia. It no longer operates as a post office but is a way station of the above road.

CORUNNA

A delightfully situated village in the township of Moore and on the St. Clair River, six miles from Sarnia. It bears its name from the battle fought and won by Sir John Moore. In recent years it has developed as a summer resort and is the summer home of many. Opposite it is Stag Island.

COURTRIGHT

A thriving village of some five hundred people, six miles below Corunna and also on the St. Clair River. It was named after Milton Courtright president of the then Canada Southern Railroad.

It has several good business places, fine churches and cosy homes. Its chief industry is manufacture of salt, a large plant operating the year round. It like its neighbor Corunna is a summer resort.

CROMAR

A post office Lot 4 Con. 3, Moore Township. The first postmaster was John Watson son of Jas. Watson, clerk for years of Moore Township. It was named after a place in Aberdeenshire Scotland.

CUTHBERT

A post office station on Lot 30 Con. 2 Dawn Township opened about 1890. First postmaster Alex. Cuthbertson, and named after him.

DAWN

One of the Townships comprising the County of Lambton, being in the southern tier of townships. The early records show this township was first known as "Arigantmosa," an Indian word probably better known by the Indians as "Argamosa" and meaning "walking with snow shoes."

Of the adoption of Dawn as a name, two solutions are offered. In "Gardiner's Book" (of nothing but names) he hints that it refers to the dawn of liberty for the escaped negro slaves who were settled on a portion of this land about 1820 by a party by the name of King. The other theory as to the name is that the Government surveyor's commencing their work at the St. Clair River and working back through what is now the Township of Sombra into the interior, after passing great dense forests which almost excluded the light, they came upon some higher and open ground and named it the "Dawn."

Dawn was originally heavily wooded with elm and ash and much lumbering was carried on. These days have passed and fine well cleared and well improved farms comprise the township. Its population in 1921 was 2470 and has an acreage of sixty-five thousand, five hundred and seventeen acres.

DAWN CENTRE

Now called Rutherford prior to the formation of the Gore of Camden this point was the centre of the Township. Bears its name from the Township.

DAWN VALLEY

A post office opened at Lot 20 Con. 1 Dawn. It passed out with the coming of rural mail. First postmaster Hugh Dunlop opened about 1850. This point too bears its name from the Township.

DUTHILL

A post office at Lot 12 Con. 9 Sombra, named after the Parish of Duthill Invernessshire Scotland. A church was built here in 1880 and it was then the name was first introduced and applied to the post office which was opened a few years later.

EDYS MILLS

A village in Dawn Township. About 1887 one Melvin Letheridge built a customs saw mill at this point. It was financed by two brothers named Edy of London. The enterprise not proving successful it passed into the hands of the Edy Brothers who enlarged the mill, it finally passing to the stave firm of Sutherland & Innis.

COUNTY BUILDINGS 1885

of Chatham, who operated it as long as the timber lasted. At one time it had about 200 residents. Today a store, school, church and two or three houses comprise the village.

A spur line of the M. C. R. extends from Oil Springs to Edys. It was named after the Edy Brothers.

ENNISKILLEN

The central township of the County of Lambton, named after a town in Ireland, but to the Canadians the name is more familiar from the memory of the famous charge of the Enniskillen Guards and the Scotch Greys at the Battle of Balaclava.

In point of area it is one of the largest townships in the County. For years it was the centre of the oil producing territory and agriculture was only a secondary pursuit. It was in this township that rock oil was first discovered in Canada, but in recent years it has made rapid strides in agriculture and is given over now almost entirely to grain raising and grazing. Its population in 1921 was three thousand and sixty three, and an acreage of about eighty two thousand acres.

EGREMONT

The name borne by a road running from a point a few miles west of Camlachie to London.

When Lord Egremont as Earl Ashman brought to this country a colony of settlers arriving at London, Ontario, from that point west to Lake Huron he found no road save only an Indian trail. This trail was followed, chopping it out and building a passable road as they moved along. This road from Warwick east to London is now the main highway over which thousands of tourists pass annually. It has from the date of the above settlement until the present retained its original name, Egremont.

ERROL

With the coming of the above settlers a town site was laid out on the shores of Lake Huron of no mean pretentions. The plans filed in the County Registry Office show streets and avenues covering many acres, but the dreams of these early pioneers failed to be realized as it never attained much size. It was, however, for years a post office serving the people as far north as Kettle Point. The first post office was opened in 1840, a Mr. Tonlman being the first postmaster. He was followed by Thos. Laing, who in turn was succeeded by George Whiting. A graveyard today is practically the only remaining reminder of this dream city.

It is interesting to note that the first newspaper published in this county was printed in this village. It was called The Sampler.

Errol was named after a small village on the Firth of Tay, Scotland.

EUPHEMIA

The most south easterly township of the County, and in point of acreage the smallest containing thirty-nine thousand, six hundred acres of land.

The Sydenham River enters the township at its extreme north at Aberfeldy and winds easterly and south until it emerges from the Township at Florence. All this western portion of the township is very fertile land. It is essentially and strictly an agricultural community. The lands of the eastern and southern portion are inclined to be sandy loam, the surface being more or less undulated, while to the north and west a general flatness distinguishes the topography, and the soil being much heavier. The western portion is splendidly adapted for grain growing, while the eastern portion is more adapted for grazing and fruit growing.

The township was set apart from Zone about 1848, but the original survey of the township was performed in 1822 by Samuel Smith. The first settler in the township was David Fancher, in 1825. The township was named after Mrs. Enphemia Cameron, mother of the Honourable Malcolm Cameron, who at that time represented the district in the Baldwin-Lafontaine Government.

Euphemia is a Greek word meaning "good language"—"silence"—"praise."

The Dominion census of 1921 gives its population as 1521.

FANCHER

The name given to an old road cut out from Newbury to Florence, winding its way across the entire Township of Euphemia and for a goodly portion of that way following or being adjacent to a creek bearing the same name.

The road and creek bear their name from an early settler, one David Fancher, who settled there in 1822 and he was largely responsible for the building of the road.

The descendants of David Fancher still reside in Enphemia, a great grandson E. W. Fancher being the member of Parliament for East Lambton at the present time.

The word Fancher is of French origin.

FAWN ISLAND

A small Canadian Island lying just below Sombra village in the St. Clair River. It is about one-half the area of Stag Island, is more or less wooded, but has never been developed as a summering place, for which purpose both its situation and beauty would well lend itself. This Island was also a deer resort, and gets it name from fawn, or young deer. It was for years known as Woodtick Island.

FLORENCE

A pleasant little village on the Sydenham river in the Township of Enphemia, some 8 miles from Bothwell on the C. N. R. from

which point it receives its mail

Colonel George R. Kirby was the first postmaster of this centre then known as Zone Mills, appointed January 6th 1840 but with the formation of Lambton County and the setting apart of Enphemia as a township the name Zone Mills was changed to Victoria after the late Queen but continual confusion in mail of Victoria and Vittoria, a village in Norfolk County the name was again changed to Florence after a place of the same name in Italy

FOREST

A town on the Canadian National Railway some 26 miles from Sarnia and about 5 miles from Lake Huron incorporated as a town in 1888. It is surrounded by a rich farming district and is a thriving centre with well ordered stores, fine homes, well appointed public buildings schools and churches.

The name Forest was conferred on a station here by the Railway authorities from the fact of its having been located in a dense bush and the people were so well pleased with the name that in response to their petition it was conferred upon the Post Office which was opened the same year 1859 with Robert Dyer as postmaster It was incorporated as a town in 1888

It has the advantages of being close to Kettle Point and other

LAMBTON COUNTY EXPORT APPLES

summering points on Lake Huron. The census of 1921 gives its population as 1422

FROOMFIELD

A pretty little summer resort 5 miles south of Sarnia on the St Clair River It was first settled by the building of a mill on the little creek emptying into the river at this point by two brothers named Talfourd The christian names of these two brothers were Froom and Field and the combined names give the village its name The name Talfourd was given to the Creek flowing into the St Clair at this point

GARVILLE

A post office opened at Lot 19 Con 5 Township of Dawn with George Boyle as postmaster Named after a post office in Scotland called "Garv" It operated until rural mail service was established

GLEN RAE

So called after one John Rae who built and operated a stave mill at this point situated on the M C R 4 miles east of Oil City A store and post office remain to mark the spot Opened about 1885 with L A Riley as first postmaster

GRAND BEND

At this point the Anx Sable enters Lake Huron, after a bend of great length and from this the name was given the settlement To-day particularly in the summer months it is a busy place, being a summering spot of no mean pretensions, many cottages dance halls and three hotels indicate its popularity It lies partly in the County of Lambton and partly in Huron County The Lambton side of this village was formerly called Brewster

Grand Bend might well be called the watering place of all that interior portion of Western Ontario within a radius reachable by auto

HALE

A post office opened at Lot 30 Con 12 Dawn Township in 1890. First postmaster John Hale from whom it born its name

HEATHER

A post office on the 7th Con Brooke near east boundary opened in 1889 with Donald McIntyre as first postmaster so named from the heather plant so dear to every Scotchman, and this was distinctly a Scotch settlement

HENRY S CORNER

Post Office in Sombra, so named after Warran T Henry and Nathaniel Henry who came here from about Kingston Mr Henry was first postmaster

HILLSBOROUGH

The name borne today by that hilly part of the shore of Lake Huron lying just at the north west corner of Plympton township It is more or less of a summer resort and in common with many other points of this shore line is very pleasing to the eye At one time a post office was opened here probably about 1865 with Thomas Hill as first postmaster from whom it bears its name.

HOLMESDALE

At one time a stave mill village on the M C R three miles east of Oil City called after Mr Holmes of the firm of Holmes, Moore and Courtright.

INWOOD

The only surviving village in Lambton County that sprung up as a result of the lumbering and stave mills It is now the centre of a good agricultural district and is a fairly busy village Contrary to the accepted belief that it obtained its name by reason of being built up in the centre of a dense wooded district it was really named by C H Moore one of the members of the stave mill firm after a pretty town on the Hudson River New York State

IPPERWASH

The name given to the Beach lying along the shore of Lake Huron between Kettle Point and Stoney Point. Many cottages of the summer colony are here and in summer months presents a gala scene The drive on the sands of the beach of this point can be followed for some miles and is one of the most pleasant to be found anywhere As far as can be ascertained the name has no historic meaning but means upper wash

JERICHO

A post office located on Lot 14 Concession 8 Township of Bosanquet and bears its name from the Bible reference to the place near Jerusalem It is about 2 miles south and west of Thedford and was expected to be the station point on the Grand Trunk Railway instead of Thedford, it being on a high ridge but difficult to over secure the land for the station site was located where Thedford now stands.

JURA

A post office opened at Lot 4 Con 5, Bosanquet Township in 1866 with James McCordie as first postmaster and called after one of the Hebride Islands

KERICH

At one time a post office on Lot 26 Con 5 (London Road), but has not operated for some time This post office was opened short-

ly after the close of the Crimean war and was no doubt called after Kertch a strait separating Crimea from the mainland

KETTLE POINT

A point seven miles almost due north from Forest on Lake Huron and so named from the peculiar formation of stone found imbedded in the shale These stones are perfectly rounded varying in size from probably a foot in diameter to many times that size Geologists and scientists have so far failed to explain this seeming freak of nature

Another peculiar formation on the shore line at this place is the appearance of the shale which forms the banks Its regularity in shapes of long oblong blocks give it the appearance of modern mason work.

The Kettle Point Reservation occupies the land lying along this portion of the lake covering an area of two thousand one hundred acres.

KIMBALL

A post office and station on the M C R Moore Township named after James Kimball the first postmaster and proprietor

MOONLIGHT ON LAKE HURON AT KETTLE POINT

of the store, when the Canada Southern Railway was built It has at the present writing two stores and is a thrifty hamlet

KINNAIRD

A post office opened at Lot 12 Concession 11 Bosanquet and named after a village near Dundee in Scotland of the same name, and means at the head of the height It operated for a number of years but is now closed

KINGSCOURT

Arthur J Kingston County Longford Ireland, was the owner of a large tract of land in Warwick Township developing what is known as the Ellarton Salt Plant, and later constructed a tram way to intersect the then Grand Trunk Railway Mr Kingston's Estate in Ireland was known as Kingscourt and the Railroad in compliment to him gave the Junction the name

LADYSMITH

A post office opened at Lot 22, Con 2 Moore about the time of the relief of Ladysmith in the South African war A Mr Coyle was the first postmaster It of course bore its name from Ladysmith South Africa.

LAKE SMITH

A small lake situate in the Township of Bosanquet between Thedford and Grand Bend. In close proximity to what is known as the Klondike Road It has no importance other than being a mecca for duck shooting in season

LAMBTON CELERY GARDENS

No history of Lambton would be complete that did not mention this area Many acres of extremely fertile land having been reclaimed by the drainage system between Thedford and Port Frank was found to be wonderfully adapted for celery growing, and has developed into a real industry many car loads of choicest celery being shipped from Thedford annually from these fields The sight as one drives through these gardens during the summer months is pleasing to the eye and at the same time a revelation.

LANGBANK

A post office situated on Lot 21 Con 11 Township of Dawn named after the native place in Scotland of Mr J C Wood This post office was opened in 1890 with Mr J C Wood as first postmaster

LOGIERAIT

A post office opened at the house of David Hossie 12th Concession Moore, in 1863 named after a town in Scotland Mr Hossie was first postmaster It passed out as a post office on the introduction of rural mail service

LUCASVILLE

Practically every visitor to Sarnia prior to 1910 will recall this place Situated on the Plank Road some four miles from Sarnia For many years it boasted a hotel school house and church It was named after George Lucas. The church and school remain to mark the corner which became so well known through its hostelry This place, at one time, was a post office with George Lucas as first postmaster

MANDAUMIN

A station and post office on the C N R 7 miles from Sarnia opened at the time of the building of the above named road

The story of the naming of this place is interesting The Government requested Malcolm Cameron then Representative of this district, to name the post office He gave it the name of Radcliffe probably after an Anglican missionary labouring in this section This locality was even in those days fairly settled and the settlement objected to the name as given calling a meeting at which Mr Cameron was present Some re-arrangement of political lines was in progress at headquarters. Mr Cameron had been cartooned as a "coon" up a tree looking which side to come down The name "stuck and he was referred to as "Coon Cameron" for years. He took the nickname jocularly and at this meeting agreed to change the name, saying "we will give the coon something to eat we will give the name Mandaumin, which is the Indian for corn or maize The name was adopted

MARTHAVILLE

A village in Enniskillen Township on the Twelfth Concession in the heart of the old district Our information is that one of the early operators Thomas by name a mill man named it after his wife whose name was Martha Its close proximity to Petrolia, (some three miles) has prevented its growing beyond the hamlet stage The post office at this point is Copleston.

McCREADY

A post office opened on Lot 30 Con 9 Enniskillen, in 1880 So called after James McCready for many years Reeve of the Township. Duncan Ross was later postmaster for some eighteen years

MOORE

The central of the western or St Clair range of townships. The north branch of the Sydenham pursues its crooked way across its south east corner but besides this there are no streams other than dry creeks which run very short distances inland at right angles to the St Clair into which they flow

The earliest settlement of the county was along the St Clair front and the present name of the township was given in honour of the celebrated British General Sir John Moore who fell on the

bloody field of Corunna just prior to the surveying of this township

"No useless coffin inclosed his breast,
Nor in sheet nor in shroud we wound him,
But he lay like a warrior taking his rest,
With his martial cloak around him."

It is a well improved area with practically no waste land, has good roads and fine homes.

It is populated by thrifty contented people mostly engaged in practical farming. Its population in 1921 was three thousand six hundred and eleven and covers an area comprising seventy two thousand two hundred and fifty seven acres.

MOORETOWN

A village of Moore Township deriving its name from the same source as the township. It is seven miles from Sarnia and two miles from Courtright on the St. Clair River. It overlooks the River St. Clair has the usual places of business churches and schools found in a small village and a population of about one hundred.

MOSSIDE

A post office in Euphemia Township opened about 1885, with James McCabe as postmaster. So called after Mosley a place near Sligo Ireland.

NAUVOO

The main road from Alvinston to Watford. So named after Nauvoo in the state of Illinois. About 1840 a mormon preacher named John Borrowman came from the East. In and around Gardiner's Mills now Alvinston he secured several converts to that faith, whether from objection taken to this faith or for some other reasons. These mormon converts decided to go to Nauvoo Ill. and the line of their trek to the London Road was the road above mentioned and it has borne the name Nauvoo ever since. It is one of the pleasant driveways of Lambton County.

OAKDALE

A post office located on lot 25 Con 13 Dawn Township, opened in 1890. The first postmaster was Alex McDougall. Named after the growth of oak in this district. The post office is gone but a store remains to claim the name.

OBAN

A post office opened on Lot 3 Con 5 Plympton. The first postmaster was a Mr Brown. Named after a place in Scotland.

OGEMAH

An Indian word meaning "Chief" and the name borne by a post office opened in 1877, about three miles further north than Errol on the lake shore road, with T. R. K. Scott, one of the pioneer settlers as postmaster. Mr. Scott was succeeded in 1882 by George Symington as postmaster.

An interesting feature in connection with all these lake shore post offices in these early days was their mail service was given by two men named Church and Haskell, who travelled on horseback from Sarnia to Bayfield, leaving and collecting the mail as they came and went.

OIL CITY

A station on the Canada Southern or M. C. R., two miles north of Oil Springs. It obtained its name from the oil boom and the quantity of oil found there. At that time it was a busy village, but has now but two stores, a post office and a few residences.

OIL SPRINGS

Probably incorporated as a village in 1865, prior to that it was known as Black Creek, owing to the black oil (petroleum) that seeped from the soil and found its way to this creek. Wm. Harrison, J.P., was the first postmaster. It is today the centre of a good community of farmers, and a thrifty village.

Its population in 1921 is given as 490. In 1866, at the height of its oil boom, it had a population of over 3000. At this time it had twelve large general stores, 9 hotels and every other equipment usually found in a town where fortunes were made and lost in a day.

There are still many oil wells operated here and considerable oil obtained.

OSBORNE

A post office opened about 1875, at the corner of lot seven, concession twelve, Moore Township, with Alex. Lamont as post master, and later on Mr. Lamont's removal, Wm. L. Gardner became post master. In all probability it was named after the favorite castle of the late Queen Victoria, Osborne Castle, on the Isle of Wight. A church and school house still remain in the Osborne district. The post office no longer operates.

OSSIAN

A post office opened on Lot 1, Con. 8, Moore Township, George McPherson, a warden at one time of Lambton County, was first postmaster and gave it the name Ossian, taken from the Scotch poet McPherson's Poems.

PARDEE

A post office opened at Lot 30, Concession 6, Sombra, about the year 1910, with James Babcock as first postmaster. It was only in operation for a short time, for rural mail delivery following close

ly upon its opening It was closed Senator F F Pardee was at this time the Representative of West Lambton and it bore his name.

PAYNE

A post office located on the farm of Joseph Payne Lot 24 Con 8 Moore Township Named after Mr J Payne

PERCH

A name given to a stream flowing through Sarnia Township and emptying into Lake Huron about ten miles above Point Edward. The name is also borne by a way station on the Canadian National Railway near this stream

Perch derives its name from the French (River Aux Perches) and was no doubt given by the early French explorers

PETROLIA

As may be judged it owes not only its name but subsequent development to the discovery and profitable production of petroleum or rock oil It was about 1861 that oil was first discovered here but it was not until 1866 that its development really started for the reason that prior to this, wells had been put down at Oil Springs and as it was there obtained by natural flow consequently being less expensive to operate this territory was developed and it was only when the natural flow ceased about 1866 that the Petrolia field was again returned to, and the Oil Springs field for the time practically abandoned Inasmuch as all crude oil had to be teamed to Wyoming the nearest railway point and the haul from Petrolia was the shorter and for some time following this Petrolia and vicinity was the scene of the great oil activity of Canada and Oil Springs as a town began its rapid decline

Today the oil supply of this territory has greatly decreased and the bustle of old days is no more, still it is a thriving centre supplying the needs of a splendid farming community Its population in 1921 was 3148 It derived its name from the source that caused its birth petroleum and was named in 1861 by Patrick Barclay the first postmaster

PINE HILL

At one time a little village lying a mile or two from the present Village of Thedford and named after the growth of pine on this elevation The post office at this point was called Widder

At one time a saw mill was operated there by Edward Proctor who afterwards became Registrar of Deeds for Lambton County

PLYMPTON

Plympton is the most northern of the centre tier of Lambton County townships and is bounded on the north by a portion of Sombra and on the north west by Lake Huron

WHERE LAMBTON'S PIONEER PRODUCT—PETROLEUM—IS MANUFACTURED

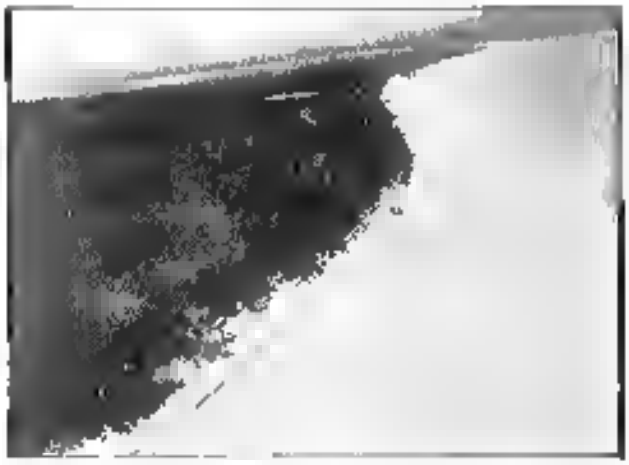
It is the second largest township in the county having 76080 acres. The settlement of Plympton dates back from 1835 in which year a large number of immigrants located along the Egremont Road in the 5th and 6th Concessions. They came out from Europe under the patronage of Lord Egremont. There was also a settlement at Camlachie the same year. The land there was settled in 1833 by old countrymen and in 1835 and 36 a considerable number of Scotch settlers came to the southern part of the township from Lanark county. When the settlement was effected along the lake there was no way of communicating with Sarnia, then a straggling hamlet containing only one store except by boats on the lake.

Plympton was named after a town in Devonshire England on the Plym River near which was Beechwood the beautiful home of Sir John Colborne Governor of Canada, when Plympton was surveyed.

It will be seen that it is one of the oldest townships in Lambton and today is a splendid agricultural district peopled by a thrifty contented industrious people. Its population in 1921 was two thousand eight hundred and twenty nine.

POINT EDWARD

This municipality at one time called Huron entered upon its corporate existence only with the beginning of the year 1879. It is situated in the extreme north west corner of Lambton County where the waters of Lake Huron flow into the St Clair River and at one time was the Canadian terminus of the then Grand Trunk Railway. As would be surmised during this period it was exclusively a railroad town and at one time had a population of over two thousand, but when the Grand Trunk removed their round



Aeroplane View of Lake Huron Sarnia Point Edward

house to Sarnia after the opening of the St Clair Tunnel The railway men and their families removed to Sarnia and Point Edward lost largely in population and for some time was a very quiet village but latterly has revived and is today a place of some 1259 people

A large stone crushing plant is located here and is also the shipping point of the Northern Navigation fleet of boats In the summer months its water front is a hive of industry not only from the above source, but at this point the ore docks of the Steel Company of Canada are located and all ore is transhipped from the boats at these docks by rail to their plant at Hamilton

Point Edward was for years called Huron Village but following the visit of Albert Edward Prince of Wales later King Edward VII of England it took on the name of Point Edward.

If our records are correct the first actual settler at this point was John P Slocum from New York State who came in the year 1838.

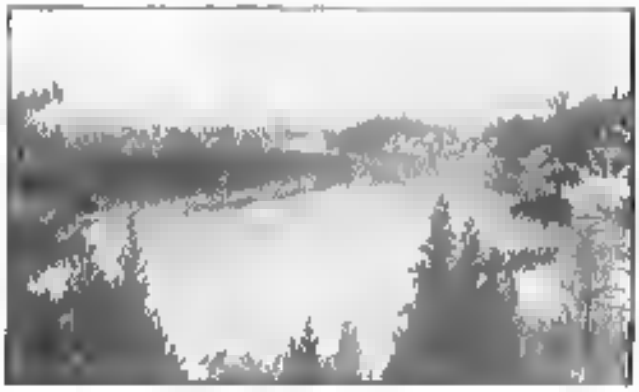
PORT FRANK

A pleasant summer resort situated on Lake Huron just above Stoney Point It has a hotel a store and many summer homes and splendid bathing facilities, and in summer months has quite a population

It was named after Charles Frank vice president of the Canada Company in 1835 which Company owned the land along the lake.

PORT LAMBTON

A village in Sombra Township and beautifully situated on the St Clair river 25 miles south from Sarnia. It received its name in common with the County from Lord Durhams English Estate It has many summer homes and is a port of call for the Detroit passenger steamers



THE AUX SAUBLE RIVER PORT FRANK

RAVENSWOOD

A post office first opened at lot 61 L R E Bosanquet in 1853 John Rawlings being the first postmaster Later it was removed to lot 55 L R E It was named after a place mentioned in Sir Walter Scott's poems yet an old settler states this post office was named from the fact that in the days when this shore line was densely wooded with pine the crows and ravens infested these woods feeding on the carrion fish in the bay and the woods was then known as Crow's Wood or Ravenswood It may be this was the source of the name.

ROCK GLEN

The name borne by one of the beauty spots of Lambton County situate on the Aux Sauble River near Arkona

The river at this point winds its way between high hills densely wooded with its primeval growth of timber and with the waters rushing over the dam constructed here lends a scene many tourists go miles to gaze upon

At this point Hydro power is developed and lights the adjoining village and furnishes power to the mills and plants in the vicinity

ROKEBY

A post office opened in 1890 at lot twenty five concession nine Broke Township with Archibald Campbell as first postmaster Mr Campbell died in 1891 and his wife Mrs. Margaret Campbell became post mistress and remained as such until with rural mail service the post office was closed Named after one of Sir Walter Scott's poems Rokeby

RUTHERFORD

Originally called Dawn Centre named after a Scotch Clergyman Samuel Rutherford It is a small village at the junction of 15 sideroad and the 7th concession of Dawn The Township Hall is located there as well as two stores a mill, two churches and many comfortable homes

SARNIA

The history of Sarnia and vicinity begins with the coming of the first white man LaRoche Daillon, a Recollet missionary who visited the Attiwoodaron Indians in 1627 These Indians were afterwards called by the French The Neutrals and occupied many villages in Western Ontario. One of these villages, called 'St. Francis' by the French missionaries, was situated a few miles from Sarnia

The first white man to pass down the Saint Clare River earlier known as the 'Otiaissaipi' (meaning clear water) was Jobel (a native-born Canadian) about the year 1669 The river was named St. Clair by Father Hennipen in 1670 He was storm

bound at the foot of Lake Huron, then known as "Karegnondi" by the Neutrals and as "Canatara" by the Iroquois and he tells us that there were then three mouths to the river. Point Edward was known as Petegwane and as late as 1770 two channels were still open.

In 1686 Duluth founded Fort "Saint Joseph" at the foot of Lake Huron on the Canadian side and thirteen years before the founding of Detroit. A few years before this LaSalle sailed up the Sainte Claire in a boat which he had constructed above Niagara Falls.

In 1829 the Township of Sarnia was surveyed by the Government and a memo in the notes of the surveyor Roswell Mount states that on the LaForge farm, where the present postoffice now stands there was an orchard at least seventy-five years old and stumps of an older orchard from which he concluded that the farm had been occupied for one hundred and twenty five years.

Sarnia was first called "The Rapids" and while as far back as 1835 a town site was surveyed at Corunna, four miles below this city, with the intention of making it the county seat, later development established "The Rapids" (Sarnia) as the county town. At this date there were forty four taxpayers in the village there being nine frame houses, four log houses, two brick houses, two

One of the [illegible]

taverns and two stores. Previous to this time the inhabitants had become convinced that a change in the name of the village was necessary, and with a pitiful lack of imagination, the English favored the name "Buenos Ayres" and the Scotch "New Glasgow." In 1835 Sir John Colborne, who had been governor of the Island of Guernsey and then governor of Upper Canada, paid a visit to the Village and at his suggestion, at a village meeting, the name "Port Sarnia" was formally adopted, Sarnia having been the Roman name for the Island of Guernsey.

Sir John Colborne reached the height of military fame, when as Colonel of the 52nd, one of the regiments comprising the Light Brigade, he charged and broke Napoleon's Old Guard Line at Waterloo. This feat is generally regarded as the turning point of the battle.

In 1890 Sarnia and Port Huron, Mich., were connected with a tunnel under the Sainte Claire River, and at this time the town became known as "Sarnia Tunnel." In the last few years, however, the word "Tunnel" was officially dropped and the city has since been known as simply Sarnia.

Steamship and Railway lines give Sarnia easy transportation facilities to all parts of Canada and the United States.

SARNIA RESERVE

Comprises in the neighborhood of four thousand acres in the Township of Sarnia, lying immediately south of Sarnia City's southern boundary and fronting on the St. Clair river. The Indians are Chippewas and number about 250.

This reservation is gradually diminishing in size, portions being surrendered from time to time to industrial plants.

SARNIA TOWNSHIP

Sarnia Township bears its name from the same source as that of the County Town, namely the Roman name for the Island of Guernsey, which was given this section of the county by Sir John Colborne. Its western boundary lying on the St. Clair River probably accounts for this township being the earliest settled part of Western Canada. While the Anglo-Saxons began their settlements in this locality in the early thirties, yet there had been a French settlement where Sarnia now stands, a century and a half prior to this. The first municipal organization of the township took place in 1836.

Today Sarnia Township is one of the best developed in the county. The district lying adjacent to the City of Sarnia is divided up into small farms for market gardening, for which its soil is wonderfully adapted and the products of these farms find ready markets in the city and northern ports.

The township was surveyed in 1829 by one Roswell Mount and its population in 1921 was 2583. Its area covers about thirty-nine thousand acres.

SECKERTON

A post office opened some years ago on Lot 18 Concession 6 Moore, with Thomas Johnston as first postmaster The post office was moved frequently within the next few years, its first removal being to Lot 13, Concession 7 where William Gray was postmaster From there it was moved to Lot 21 Concession 7 with D Larenx as postmaster and later to Lot 20 Concession 7 with Emanuel Edwards as postmaster

The name of this post office was given by the Postal Department. Just why is not apparent.

An interesting feature in connection with it is that the salary of the first postmaster was twelve dollars per year

SHETLAND

Originally known as Dobbyn's Mills but on the opening of a post office there with John Drew as postmaster it was named Shetland by the Postal Department, after the Shetland Islands The post office no longer operates, but a store, school, church flour mill and several homes comprise the village It is situate on Lot 24, Con 2 Enphemia Township and close by the Sydenham river

SOMBRA TOWNSHIP

Sombra Township occupies the south westerly corner of Lambton County and was so named by the surveyors from the Spanish word 'sombre' meaning shade

The above surveyors finding it densely wooded to such an extent as to almost exclude the light of day hence the name.

Its first municipal organization dates in the year 1822. At that time it was united with the Township of Dover in the County of Kent In 1826 Sombra withdrew from Dover and St Clair Township comprising the present Sombra and Moore as well as Walpole Island became a township Later on it separated from Moore and became a separate Township It was left with an acreage of seventy two thousand acres

In the early days it was a reserve peopled by the Shawanese Indians The Sydenham river (north branch) traverses the township from north to south For many years owing to the lack of drainage this township was slow in development but in later years it has wonderfully developed into a fine agricultural area, peopled by a hardy industrious population numbering in 1921 three thousand two hundred and seventy four souls.

SOMBRA VILLAGE

A village of the township of the same name situate on the St Clair River 6 miles north of Port Lambton It's name is synonymous with that of the township It is a thrifty pleasant village of some 250 people connected by a ferry service with Marine City in the U S and this population is greatly increased in warmer

months by those seeking a pleasant summer resort It is a station on the Pere Marquette Railroad

SQUIRREL ISLAND

A small island separated from Walpole Island by the Chematagon Channel and lying at the south of Walpole and is practically a part of this island being under the same Indian Council It is also peopled solely by Indians

STAG ISLAND

Isle-aux-Serfs—which on being interpreted from the French reads Isle of Stags hence the name Stag Island In early days our records show It was a rendezvous for deer and many interesting tales are related relative to hunting on this island by early explorers and settlers.

It comprises some two hundred acres the eastern side of which is beautifully wooded while the western side is cleared

A spacious dancing pavilion summer hotel and numerous cottages, are built along its eastern shore line and the constant passing up and down of steamers together with its natural surroundings make it a very pleasant spot for a summer outing

While apparently in mid stream of the St Clair River it yet belongs to Canada. It lies immediately opposite the Village of Corunna

STONEY POINT

A point projecting itself into the waters of Lake Huron a short distance above Kettle Point, and so called from its stoney surface The Stoney Point reservation of Chippewa Indians, numbering about forty occupy the twenty five hundred and ninety acres lying adjacent to this point

SCENE ON RIVER ST CLAIR—NEAR STAG ISLAND

SUTORVILLE

A post office situated on Lot 14 Concession 13 Township of Brooke opened in 1891 The first post master was James Davis and the post office bore its name from a Mr Sutor who owned and operated a stave mill there for some years

The post office has passed out of existence and an Anglican church alone remains to mark the place which at one time had one or two stores and a stave mill operating

SYDENHAM

A river the two branches of which with their tributaries meander over the greater part of the centre and southern portion of Lambton County furnishing practically the natural outlet for this section of the county

The southern branch takes its rise in Warwick Township flowing southward where it is joined by Bear Creek which enters the County about the centre of Brooke Township's eastern boundary From there it flows south and east entering Euphemia Township's northern boundary about the centre wanders in a south easterly course across this township into the Township of Dawn emerging from the county at the south eastern corner of this last mentioned township. It then follows a winding course across the county of Kent joining the northern branch at Wallaceburg

The northern branch of this river also finds its source in the township of Warwick and joined by other numerous streams or creeks lying in the territory adjacent to the town line between Enniskillen and Moore flows southward being swollen by many other little rivulets including Black Creek or Bear Creek until as it reaches Wilkesport, Sombra Township it has assumed the proportion of a real river From there on it flows south and went into the county of Kent and joins the south branch as above stated at Wallaceburg The now united streams form the parent river which from this point follows on in its ever varying course eventually emptying its waters into Lake St Clair From the lake as far as Wallaceburg this river is navigable for moderate sized vessels and both branches for further distances for small craft

The river was named after Charles Edward Poulett-Thompson Governor-General of Canada in 1839 and whose landed title in England was Lord Sydenham.

SYKESTON

A post office on Lot 7, Con. 10 Moore first postmaster Robert Heal Named Sykeston by Robert Fleck after the Sykes family who settled in this township, some of whom are still resident in Moore

THEDFORD

A thr ving village situate on the Canadian National Railway some thirty five miles east of Sarnia and lying in the Township of Dosanquet.

Nelson Southworth a native of the State of Vermont gave in the Railway offic als the station site the condition being he was to have the privilege of naming the station Thedford after a place of that name in Vermont This village of some 524 souls is the centre of a well developed frn t area Its places of business are well kept and supply the needs of a thrifty community

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TANCRED

A post office situate on Lot 16 Con 2 Brooke Township, opened in 1890 and named by the Department after a character in Scott's novel "The Talisman" The first postmaster was Angus McKinlay

TERMINUS

A post office opened in Sombra township on lot 19 con 8. No record of why it was so named appears. It passed out with the coming of rural mail delivery Alex Gibson was first postmaster

THORNYHURST

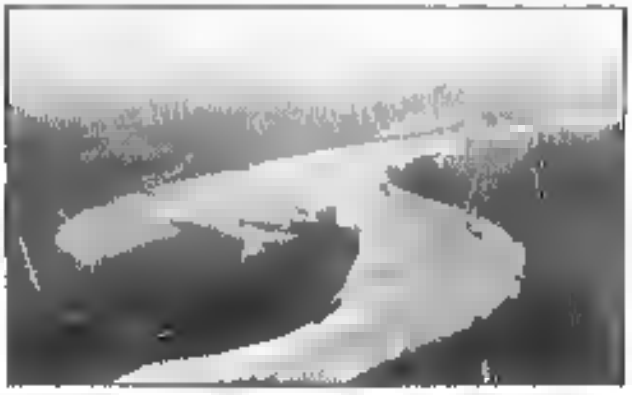
A post office situate on lot 6 con 8, Sombra Township named after Walter Thornyhurst an early settler of the neighborhood He was also first postmaster It too has ceased to exist as a post office

UTTOXETER

A small village and for years a post office on 24th sideroad Plympton. A blacksmith shop church orange hall, and a few residences today comprise the village It was named by Thos Doherty one of the residents when the post office was opened given its name after a place in England

VYNER

A post office situate on lot one concession nine Sarnia Township about 1867 with John Gates as first postmaster and who held the position as long as it operated being almost forty years. It is repnted to be named after an English family by name Vyner



WALPOLE

The name given to the large island separated from Lambton County by the Snycarte River It has an area of 40 480 acres, and its population of 738 is composed of 568 Chippewas and 170 Pottawattamies.

It would appear that the scattered Indian of the Chippewa tribe at the close of the war of 1912-14 were placed on this island The Pottawatamies coming from the United States about 1841 and by permission of the Government allowed to settle on this Island It is difficult to arrive at the naming of the Island but the best deduction is that it was named after Lt Arthur Walpole, or Lt John Walpole or probably both These two men having been engaged in surveying this part of Canada for some time

The island itself is still to a large extent wooded though some farming is carried on On a map of Upper Canada West compiled in 1838 the present Walpole Island bears the name of St Mary's Island.

WALNUT

A post office on Lot 15 Con 9 Township of Brooke, opened in 1877 with Isaac Ayers as first postmaster and so called from the growth of Walnut timber in that locality

WANSTEAD

A small village on the C N R. some seventeen miles east of Sarnia. This village was surveyed by F R Jones Land Surveyor in 1858 and filed in the Registry Office by Henry C R Beecher the then owner of the land in 1859 It remains a station on the C N R has one store church and a population of about one hundred

Wanstead in all probability was named after a suburban village of London England. This village dates back to the time of the Saxons and means "Woden's Place."

WARWICK

One of the eastern tier of Townships of Lambton County named after one of the inland counties of England Both branches of the Sydenham river take their rise in this township The surface of the township is in great part almost entirely level though much of it may rightly be gently undulating varying as in other townships of this county to the comparatively level flat lands in the vicinity of the water courses.

The soil is very fertile and well adapted for agricultural pursuits The survey of the Township took place in 1832. Peter Carl being the engineer who accomplished it and the earliest settlement within its limits was effected during the same year It is composed of about seventy thousand acres.

Its first school and the first church in the township was built in Warwick Village the former in 1840 and the latter the Episcopal church (still standing) in 1843

Today this township presents a scene pleasing to the eye A scene of fine farms and homesteads which show the industry and thrift of its people. Taken as a whole township it ranks with the first in the Province In 1921 its population was two thousand, three hundred and seventy six

WARWICK VILLAGE

A village in the Township of Warwick At one time it was quite a centre of the farming community but not being on the railroad it has rather diminished in population It is prettily located on the Egremont road some 24 miles from Sarnia.

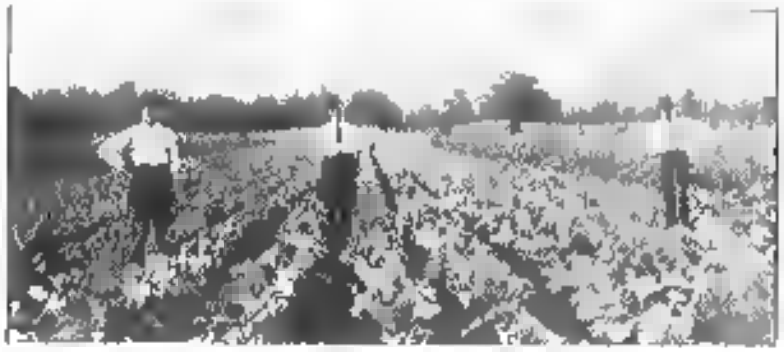
WATFORD

A thriving village in the Township of Warwick on the C N R 30 miles distant from Sarnia, surrounded by a splendid farming district

In 1853 one Richard Brown opened a store where Watford now stands It was known as Brown's corners The next year 1854, he was appointed postmaster of the post office now being opened and Brown's Corners was named Watford after a place in England Its homes, places of business and public buildings would be a credit to larger centres than Watford

WATSON

A station on the Pere Marquette some sixteen miles from Sarnia, named after W H Watson the then Deputy Reeve of Sombra who had taken a prominent part in securing the bonus given to the Erie & Huron Railroad Co This Company being the original owners of the present Pere Marquette



GARDEN NG SCENE LAMBTON COUNTY

WAUBUNO

A post office opened on Lot 18 Con. 2 Moore Township with Thomas Moore as first postmaster. Later postmasters at this point were Thomas Capes, S. D. Varnum, Mirza Overton and John Young. Though the post office passed out with rural mail delivery the church, school and community is known as Waubuno. The word itself is of Indian origin meaning "the dawn of day."

WAWANOSH

Until the putting through of the Cull drain a large acreage in the northwest part of Sarnia Township was in whole or in part covered with water. This was known as Lake Wawanosh. The draining of this section has given a large and fertile area ever for market gardening.

The word "Wawanosh" is from the Indian tongue meaning "one who walks carefully."

WEIDMAN

At one time a post office and station on the Canada Southern Railway east of Oil City. One Paul Weidman opened a stave mill there in the days of lumbering. It was named after Mr. Weidman.

WHEELER

A post office opened at Lot 4, Con. 3, Enniskillen Township. Named after the Wheeler family who were probably the first settlers in this part of the township.

WIDDER

This was the name given to Pine Hill post office in 1856 after Mr. Widder who owned the property there. The postmaster was Utrick Chester.

WIDDER STATION

This was the first name of the post office where Thedford now stands. The post office was opened in 1862, with Robert Rae as postmaster. The post offices of Widder and Widder Station were some miles apart.

WILKESPORT

A village in Sombra Township on the Sydenham river, some fourteen miles above Wallaceburg. In the earlier days it was a great lumbering centre named after a Mr. John Wilkes, who operated in the timber trade at that time. It still retains the business places of a small village.

WILSONCROFT

A post office opened on Lot 26 Con. 9 Enniskillen, called after a Mr. Wilson at whose house it was held. It ceased to operate with the coming of rural mail delivery.

WISBEACH

A post office situate on Lot 28 Con. I S E. R. Warwick It was opened in 1854. First located on Lot 30 Con I S E R Mr Bowes was first postmaster and on his death Mrs Bowes received the appointment and held the position until the closing of the office. It was named after a place called Wisbeach in England.

WOODTICK ISLAND

Name formerly borne by Fawn Island and so called from insect life that infested the island at one time

WYOMING

A village which by the 1921 census shows a population of 482 situate on the C N R some 14 miles east of Sarnia and north east from Petrolia 6 miles The word itself is derived from the Indian tongue and means "The Large Plains." In the State of Pennsylvania lies a town and valley named Wyoming rendered famous from Campbell's beautiful poem "Gertrude of Wyoming" and as the early oil prospectors who came to Oil Springs "treked" their equipment from the site of the present Wyoming the most reasonable conclusion is they gave this point the name of their home town

ALONG LAKE HURON SHORE

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Johnston, A. J.
Lambton County names and places

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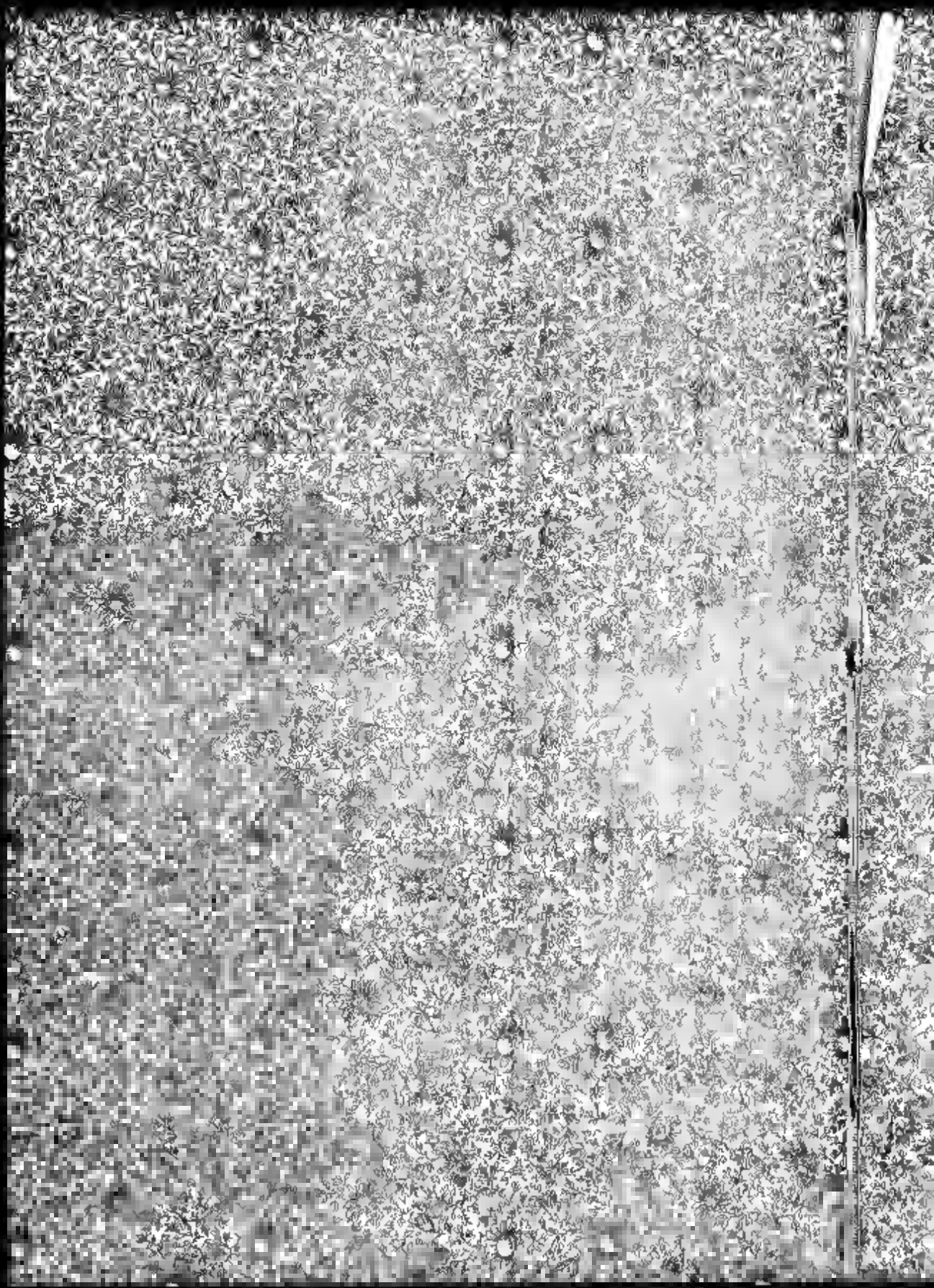

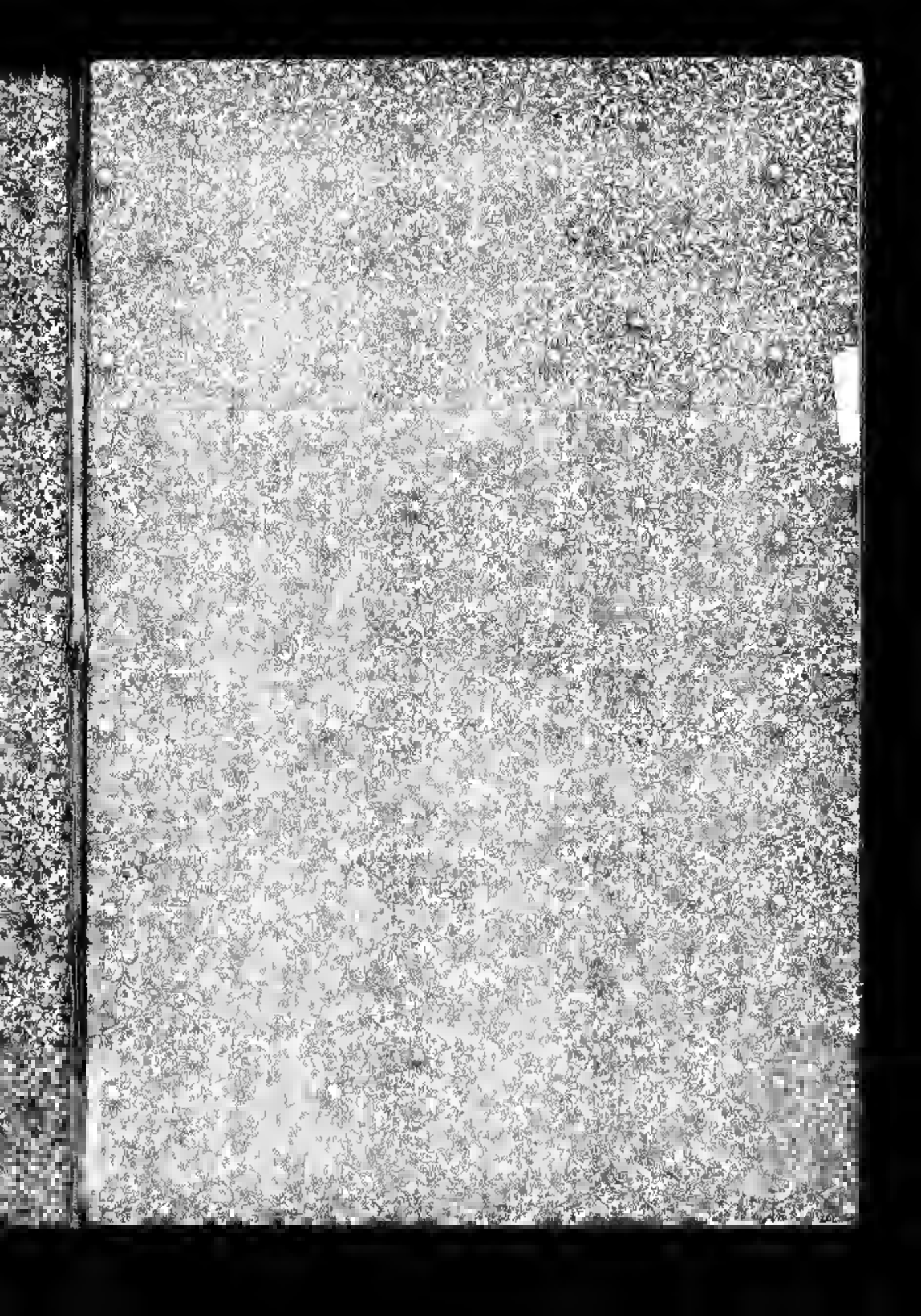

Compliments

P. J. Johnston

LAMBTON COUNTY
NAMES AND PLACES

COMPILED BY
A J JOHNSTON

PUBLISHED BY
LAMBTON COUNTY COUNCIL
1925

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DANIEL FRASER MACWATT
COUNTY JUDGE 1899 1920

INTRODUCTORY

IN submitting this history of the names and places in Lambton County it would be unfair to not place the credit for the original idea of recording and perpetuating the story of Lambton County where it belongs.

Early in the year of 1920 the late Daniel Fraser McWatt, the then Senior Judge of Lambton County had gathered much of the data of the records in this book contained, but before he had an opportunity of compiling it he was called by death. Since that time the writer has gradually gathered together the information on the remaining places and I now give it to the public for what it is worth.

The reader will appreciate the difficulty of getting authentic data regarding many places and if in some instances it differs from the knowledge you already have you will know that reports of our correspondents vary somewhat, and in each case the most strongly supported report has been accepted.

The main object of these chronicles is to preserve the story of the names and places in Lambton County, many of which places have even now ceased to exist and in a few years, as the present residents pass away will be entirely forgotten.

The research work involved in securing the required information for this history has been extremely interesting and while it has been somewhat imperfectly compiled yet we trust it will recall many pleasant memories to the older people and be a source of information to the rising generation.

A. J JOHNSTON

Sheriff's Office
Sarnia April 20th 1925.

ALBERT J. JOHNSTON
SHERIFF
LANETON COUNTY

Lambton County Names and Places

IT will be found by perusing the pages of this book that it narrates the formative period of Lambton County and a short history of its names and places, and in order that the reader may know the precise location of the county and places hereinafter mentioned, we herewith give its boundaries and something of their history

Lambton County is situated along the extreme south western shore line of Lake Huron, this lake in fact forms its entire northern and northwesterly boundary, on the east lies the county of Middlesex on the south the County of Kent, with the exception of the south westerly portion which is bounded by the Snycarte River, its entire western boundary being the St Clair River

Champlain saw Lake Huron for the first time in 1617 and he called the lake "Mer Douce" or sweet sea referring to the waters not being salt The old Indian name of Lake Huron was 'Kareg nondi' This name was given by the Hurons to the lake The Iroquois name was 'Canatara', later on some of the French maps called the lake, Lake Orleans and later still the name is given in French Maps as Lake Michigan or Huron, and afterwards the maps differentiate lake Michigan and Huron and show them as separate lakes

Middlesex, the eastern boundary, was named after Middlesex, England Kent County on the south, was named after the Duke of Kent, father of Queen Victoria

Snycarte is a corruption of Chenal-e-Carte, or lost channel This name appears in very early maps and no doubt was given by some of the early French explorers The Snycarte separates Lambton County and Walpole Island, and as it nears Wallaceburg, joins the Sydenham river, eventually flowing into Lake St Clair

River St Clair, the western boundary, together with Lake St Clair were so named by LaSalle and Hennapin in 1679 when they sailed northward over these waters They crossed Lake St Clair on St Clare's day, and for that reason named the lake and river It was afterwards changed to St Clair in common usage The Indian name of Lake St Clair was 'Otl Kita" and the Indian name of St Clair River was "Otthasissippi"

Lambton County

THE territory now called by the name of The County of Lambton, was originally part of The District of Hesse, which was bounded according to the Proclamation of his Excellency the Governor-General, Guy Lord Dorchester, dated 24th July 1788, in the twenty-eighth year of the reign of His Majesty George III, as follows

"The District of Hesse which is to comprehend all the residue of our said Province in the Western or inland parts thereof, of the entire breadth thereof, from the Southerly to the Northerly boundaries of the same '

As the District of Naussau was the next District to Hesse in the East and extended "so far Westerly as to a North and South line intersecting the extreme projection of Long Point into the Lake Erie on the Northerly side of said Lake Erie," the District of Hesse took in all the rest of the lands to the West of Long Point

By 31 George III (Imperial) Chapter 31 (1791) section 14 the Lieutenant-Governor in the absence of the Governor-General, received power to divide the Province into Counties or Districts In pursuance of this Act, his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, Colonel John Graves Simcoe, by proclamation dated 16th July, 1792, divided the Province of Upper Canada into nineteen Counties, namely Glengarry Stormont, Dundas, Grenville Leeds Frontenac Ontario Addington, Lennox, Prince Edward, Hastings Northumberland Durham York, Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex Kent, the nineteenth being called by the name of The County of Kent, which County is to comprehend all the Country (not being Territories of the Indians) not already included in the several Counties hereinbefore described, extending Northward to the boundary line of Hudson's Bay including all the territory to the Westward and Southward of the said line to the utmost extent of the country commonly called or known by the name of Canada '

The County of Essex was the adjoining County to Kent and its Westerly boundary is described in Governor Simcoe's Proclamation as bounded ' on the west by the River Detroit to Maisonville's Mill, from thence by a line running parallel to the River Detroit and Lake St Clair at the distance of four miles until it meets the River La Tranche or Thames and thence up the said River to the North-west boundary of the County of Suffolk '

All the territory therefore, now known as the County of Lambton, was then part of the County of Kent, which, by Proclamation, was to be represented by two members in the Legislative Assembly of Canada, but by the Redistribution Act (Upper Canada) 40 George III Chapter 3, passed 4th July 1800, the County of Kent was to be represented by one member only

By 32 George III (Upper Canada) Chapter 8, section 5, passed 15th October, 1792 the name of the District was changed and thereafter it was called The Western District.

By 38 George III Chapter 5 (1798) assented to 1st January, 1800, Essex and Kent, together with so much of the Province as is not included within any other District thereof, "were formed into the Western District."

By 2 George IV Chapter 3, Section 12, passed 14th April, 1821, (being the first Session in that year) "The following NEW Townships in the Western District were attached to the County of Kent, namely: the Townships of Zone, Dawn, Sombra and Saint Clair" The last named Township was changed to Sarnia probably in Sir John Colborne's time, 1839 as that was the Roman name of the Island of Guernsey with which Sir John was identified.

By 4 William IV Chapter 55 (1834) assented to 5th May, 1835, which recited that a certain tract of land situate in the Western District * * * had been lately surveyed and laid off into Townships, the Townships of Moore and Sarnia (formerly St Clair), Plympton, Enniskillon, Warwick, Brooke and Bosanquet, were attached to and formed part of the County of Kent in the Western District.

The Revised Statutes of 1841 contain no mention of Lambton and reprint the Act of 1821, 2 George IV, Chapter 3, as being in full force.

By 4 and 5 Victoria, Chaptor 10 (1841), which went into operation 1st January, 1842 a District Council for the Western District was formed and it met, for the first time at Sandwich on 11th February 1842, representatives being present from Essex and Kent, in which latter County, as we have seen the territory now known as Lambton County then formed a part.

By 10 and 11 Victoria, Chapter 39, assented to 9th July, 1847, the County of Kent ceased to be part of the Western District and became known as the District of Kent.

By 12 Victoria Chapter 78, assented to 30th May 1849 Districts were abolished and by section 30, Kent and "Lambton" were formed as provisional Counties and by section 31, as soon as the Court House and Gaol then in the course of being erected, shall have been completed the Governor of the Province may issue a Proclamation dissolving the union between the United Counties of Kent and Lambton and the County of Essex and from thenceforth the said United Counties of Kent and Lambton shall form a union of Counties" This is the first time the name "Lambton", as a County, appears officially.

Under this Act certain Counties were to remain united until the Junior County should have a population of not less than fifteen thousand souls, (section 10), in which case it became entitled to a separate establishment of Court and County institutions. Kent and Lambton were so united as we have seen, Lambton being the Junior County but from its geographical position it was deemed expedient to make provision for its separation, before it had attain-

ed the population required by law to entitle it to sever the judicial union between it and the County of Kent

By 12 Victoria, Chapter 79, assented to May 30th 1849 the County of Lambton was declared to include the Townships of Brooke, Dawn, Bosanquet Enniskillen Euphemia, Moore Plympton, Sarnia, Sombra and Warwick and were united with Kent for the purpose of representation in the Legislative Assembly of Canada and a union of Counties made between Kent Lambton and Essex

The County of Kent withdrew in 1851, and Essex and Lambton were then known as "The United Counties of Essex and Lambton," the municipal Capital being at Sandwich, now the County seat of the County of Essex

In 1914 the Dominion Archivist, Dr Doughty, published the Constitutional History of Canada from 1791 to 1818 in which there is a map of Upper Canada drawn by W Chewett D P surveyor by order of His Excellency John Graves Simcoe the Lieutenant-Governor of Upper Canada, which shows the County of Kent, as referred to in the Proclamation of 1792 It extended from the mouth of the Detroit River Northeastwards to the Westerly boundary of the County of Hastings, on the Trent River and North as far as the North Pole, seemingly It also took in what are now Michigan and Illinois, as well as Lakes Michigan and Superior, and even went West of that, as far as Canada then extended Certainly the County of Kent was the largest County in Canada in those days

The County of Suffolk is now part of the Counties of Kent and Elgin

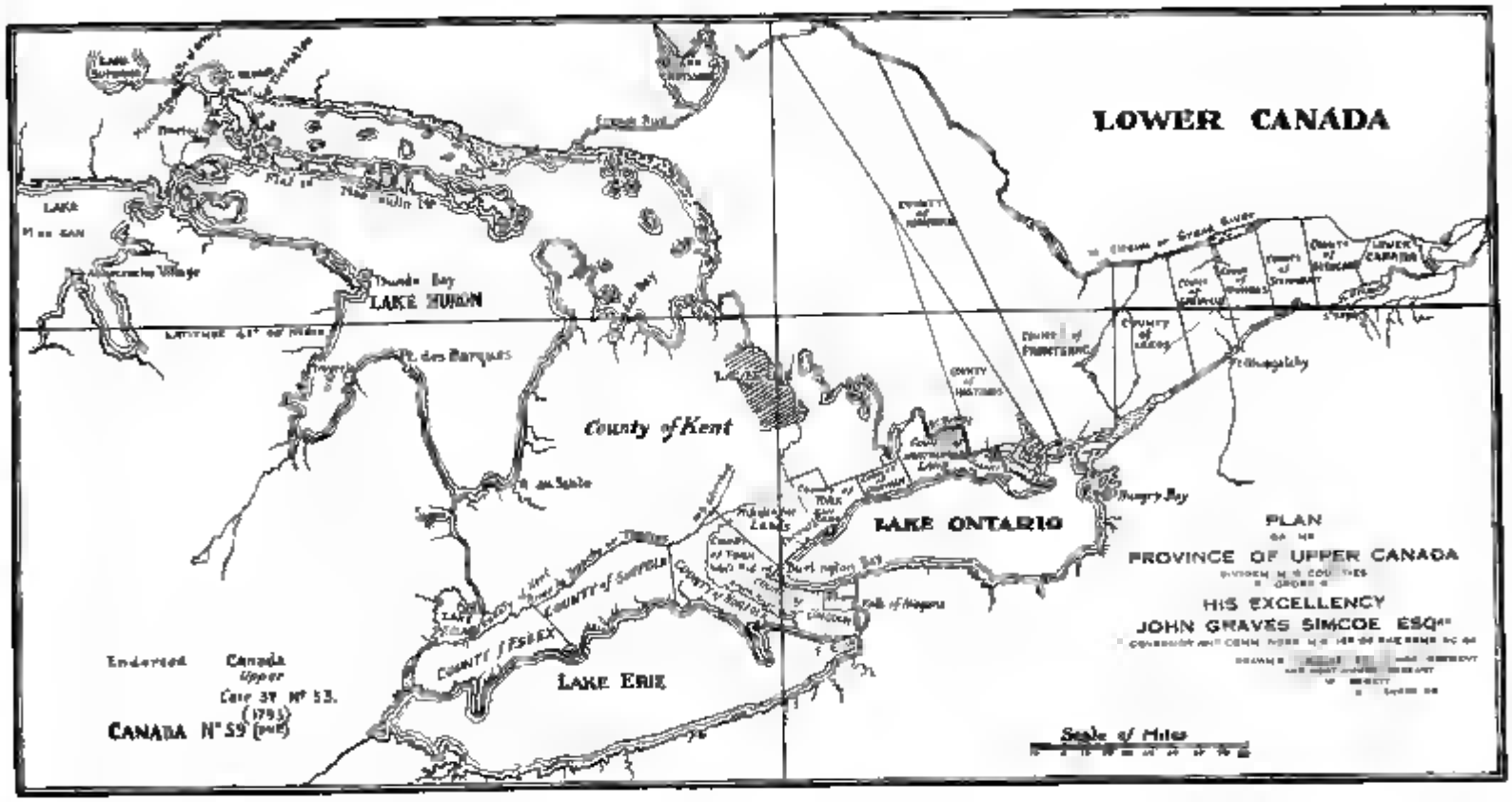
A reproduction of this very interesting map on a small scale, will be found contained herein

The "County of Lambton" first appears in 12 Victoria Chapter 78, (1849) sections 30 and 31, and was then first officially recognized by the Legislature Prior to that the territory forming what is now the County of Lambton was included in Kent County There is nothing to show that it was officially recognized before that year In the Minutes of the District Council (the Western District) composed of the Counties of Kent and Essex from 1842 to 1849 the name "Lambton" does not appear

In 1841 there were petitions presented asking that the Northern Townships of Kent be erected into a separate District, and a Bill was reported, but no effective action was taken by the Legislature

Other petitions were presented to the same effect in 1844-45 and also in 1846 and 1847 but no action was taken thereon evidently, except on those presented in January 1845 by which the petitioners desired the new District to be known as 'Moore' and a bill to give effect to this was brought in which reached a second reading and then was given the six months hoist.

In March, 1848, another petition was presented, and according to the Journals of the House for that year, the petitioners were H


LOWER CANADA
LAKE HURON
County of Kent
LAKE ONTARIO
LAKE ERIE
COUNTY of ESSEX
COUNTY of SUFFOLK
PLAN
PROVINCE OF UPPER CANADA
HIS EXCELLENCY
JOHN GRAVES SIMCOE ESQ^re
Scale of Miles
Entered Canada Upper
Case 37 N° 53.
(1795)
CANADA N° 59 (part)

lonce and others of Enniskillen Townehip, and others from Townehips in the Western District praying that a new District be set apart, with Port Sarnia as the District Town.

In 1850 petitions were presented from the Townships of Enniskillen, Dawn, Brooke and Euphemia praying that the Act establishing the County (clearly 12 Victoria, Chapter 79, of 1849) be amended so as to place the County town in Enniskillen, and a counter petition from Port Sarnia was also presented that the prayer of the petition be not granted, but that the County Town be located in Port Sarnia, which latter, evidently, had ite effect

The librarian of the Legislative Assembly, Toronto Mr. Avern Pardoe gives a very feasible reason why the name "Lambton County," like Topsy, "growed" instead of being officially born in the usual way.

Under the Union Act of 1840, each Province (Upper and Lower Canada) had to have an equal number of members and each had sixty-five in the Legislative Assembly. The Canadian Parliament did not possess the power to alter this except by increasing the number in both Provinces. Hence the Representation by Population agitation, as the population of Upper Canada, at first less than that of Lower Canada outgrew the latter.

One of the consequences of this state of affairs was, that a new County could not be formed in the rapidly growing west of the Province of Upper Canada until a seat could be established in the slowly growing Eastern Province.

It is quite likely that the formation of Lambton County had been decided upon, and its name unofficially determined, but that the step could not go into effect until a seat in the East had been arranged.

There are on record instances in which there have been sharp rivalries between different localities for the name of the new Governor.

That name furnishes an easy reference to the date of the formation of a County or other municipality. In the case of "Lambton" it excludes everything before 1838, the year Earl Durham was Governor.

Mr. Pardoe further points out, that while there is nothing to show that Lambton was recognized officially till 1849 between 1838 and 1849 there are facts which show that it was not. The Act forbidding spearing of fish, 6 Victoria, Chapter 13, (1843), refers to, among others, the Counties of Essex and Kent; if there had been a Lambton County it would certainly have applied to it. And also that 'Moore' was suggested by petition in 1845.

While, however, there is nothing prior to 1849 on the subject, Chapter 11 of that year may inferentially bear on it.

That Act recites that whereas the Union Act 1840 required Townships to be erected by Proclamation, the erection of Townships in Upper Canada had been done according to the pre Union Act method without any Proclamation, presumably under 31 George

III. (Imperial), 1791, second 14, which authorized the Lieutenant-Governor in Council to divide the Province into Counties or Districts.

This power being Imperial legislation, could not be interfered with, except by the Imperial Parliament, and as they continued to act under the old powers with respect to Townships they probably continued to do so as to Counties also Besides which the publication of Orders-in-Council was in these days more 'honored in the breach than in the observance,' being exceedingly spasmodic and capricious

The minutes of the Municipal Council of the Western District were not kept from the first meeting, held on the 11th February, 1842 until October, 1846 Printed minutes are in existence from the latter date, and on a perusal of the volume containing the minutes from October, 1846, to the end of 1849, the name 'Lambton' is not mentioned in any part of it

Many attempts were made to have the District divided (or a new District formed) containing the Northern Townships of the County of Kent, betwsen 1841 and 1849, but no name seems to have been given to it. I think it is quite evident the petitions did not contain a name subsequent to 1841, except in 1845 when 'Moore' was proposed but not accepted, and until the County of Lambton was mentioned in 12 Victoria, Chapters 78 and 79, passed in 1849, it does not appear No Order inCouncil has been found as yet but as the Indices are wanting, we cannot, so far, find any Order-in-Council, calling the territory by the name County of Lambton, if such were ever passed

The following are extracted from the minutes of the Western District Council

On the 6th October, 1846, Mr Larwill, who was the representative from Raleigh Township in the County of Kent gave notice of a petition on Friday next, from the inhabitants of Kent, relative to a division of the District. That was on the first day of the session On the 9th October, the fourth day, he asked leave to defer his petition on the subject of a division of the District On October 10th he presented a petition praying a division of the District, which was adopted, but the petition does not appear in the minutes

On the 2nd February 1847, the first day of the session, Mr Durand, who was the representative from Sarnia Township seconded by Mr Girty the representative from Gosfield Township in the County of Essex, moved that Messrs Durand, Hyde, Johnston and Larwill, Hyde being the representative from Plympton, and Johnston from Sombra, be appointed a committee to draft a petition to the Legislature to divide the County of Kent into two Districts

On the 12th October 1847, Mr Hyde moved, seconded by Mr Fisher, representative from Moore and Enniskillen that the Committee appointed last session to draft a petition to the Legislature to divide the County of Kent into two Districts, have leave to act

SIR JOHN COLBORNE
LIEUT GOV U C 1828 1836
GOV GEN OF CANADA 1839 TO 1840

this session Later in the day Mr Hyde moved, seconded by Mr Johnston that the Committee appointed in the February session to draft a petition to the Legislature to make the County of Kent into two Districts, be allowed to make their report at the next session of the Council and these were carried

On the 4th February, 1848 Mr Durand, of the committee to draft a petition to the Legislature for the formation of the ten townships of the County of Kent into a new District, presented the draft of a petition

Mr Hyde moved, seconded by Mr McLeod, representative from Malden, in Essex County, that the draft of petition presented by Mr Durand be adopted

Mr Larwill moved in amendment seconded by Mr Thompson that the petition be not adopted (They were evidently not well up in Parliamentary procedure, as the amendment was simply a negative and should not have been allowed) The amendment being put the HOUSE (so called in the minutes) was counted and the votes for and against the amendment were as follows —For the amendment—Allan (Anderdon) Crow (Chatham) Duck (Howard) Hetherington (Romney), Johnston (Sombra), Larwill (Raleigh) Mitchell (Dover) Ruddle (Deputy Reeve Howard) Simpson (Tilbury East) James Smith (Dawn) Thompson (Harwich), and Young (Deputy Reeve, Harwich)—12 Against it—Messrs Baby (Deputy Reeve Sandwich) Brown (Maidstone) Campbell (Warwick) Charron (Rochester), Desjardines (Tilbury West), Durand (Sarnia) Fisher (Moore and Enniskillen), Girty (Gosfield) Henry (Orford) Hyde (Plympton), Ketchum (Bosanquet) Mallot (Mersea), McLeod (Deputy Reeve, Maldeu), and Wright (Colchester) —15

However the members in opposition got in their fine work later On the fifth day afterwards, the 9th February, when all but one of those in favor were away, Mr Larwill moved seconded by Mr Thompson, that the resolution requiring the District Clerk to present a petition to the House of Assembly, praying for re-division of the District of Kent, be and the same is hereby rescinded which carried

The twelve who were there on the fourth, and voted that the petition be not adopted, were present and voted The only one in opposition present was Mr Hyde the other fourteen being absent

On 6th October, 1848, the House went into committee of the whole upon petitions from Plympton, Sarnia and Warwick and on the motion of Mr James Smith, representative from Dawn seconded by Mr Duck representative from Howard in Kent County. the following resolution was adopted

Resolved that this Council are of opinion that the present Act of the Provincial Parliament, setting off the new District of Kent should be so amended that the ten Northern Townships consisting of Warwick Bosanquet, Brooke Plympton, Sarnia Moore Enniskillen, Sombra, Zone and Dawn should constitute a New District,

or such other equitable division as the House may see fit so soon as they shall have a population of 7 000 and consider themselves competent to defray the expenses of a New District at which time the District of Kent shall repay to said Northern Townships, such sum or sums of money as they shall have contributed towards the erection of the public buildings in the District in Kent, and that the site for the public buildings in the New District to be composed of said Northern Townships shall be in the Township of Enniskillen, and selected by the Councillors of said Townships, and that a committee be appointed to draft a petition to the Legislature in accordance with this Resolution

Mr Fisher then moved, seconded by Mr James Smith, that Messrs Duck Mitchell Hyde, Fisher and Smith be a committee to draft the said petition which was carried

On the 7th October, Mr James Smith, chairman of the committee to draft a petition to the Legislature in accordance with the resolution of yesterday, concerning the ten Northern Townships presented the following draft of a petition which was adopted

TO THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE PROVINCE OF CANADA IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED

The Petition of the District Council of the Western District, in Council assembled

HUMBLY SHEWETH

That the present Act of the Provincial Parliament, setting aside the new District of Kent, ought, in the opinion of this Council, to be amended by setting apart the ten Northern Townships of said District, viz Bosanquet Plympton, Warwick Sarnia Brooke, Enniskillen, Moore, Sombra Dawn and Zone (or such other equitable division as your Honourable House may deem fit) which would constitute a New District, as soon as the population shall amount to 7 000, and they shall consider themselves able to defray the expenses of a New District, at which time the District of Kent, should repay to the aforesaid Townships such sums of money as they may have contributed towards the erection of the public buildings in the District of Kent. They are also of opinion that the site of the public buildings for the proposed New District should be in the Township of Enniskillen and selected by the Councillors of the above named ten Townships Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that the above-mentioned Act may be amended in conformity with the prayer of this petition

And your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, etc

On the 28th day of February, 1852 a Provisional County was authorized, by order of the Governor-in-Council, and on the 15th day of April 1852, the first meeting of the Provisional Council of the County of Lambton was held at Port Sarnia now Sarnia, Thomas Fisher of Moore being elected Provisional Warden It had not yet the full Status of a County Council, as the union with Essex still subsisted

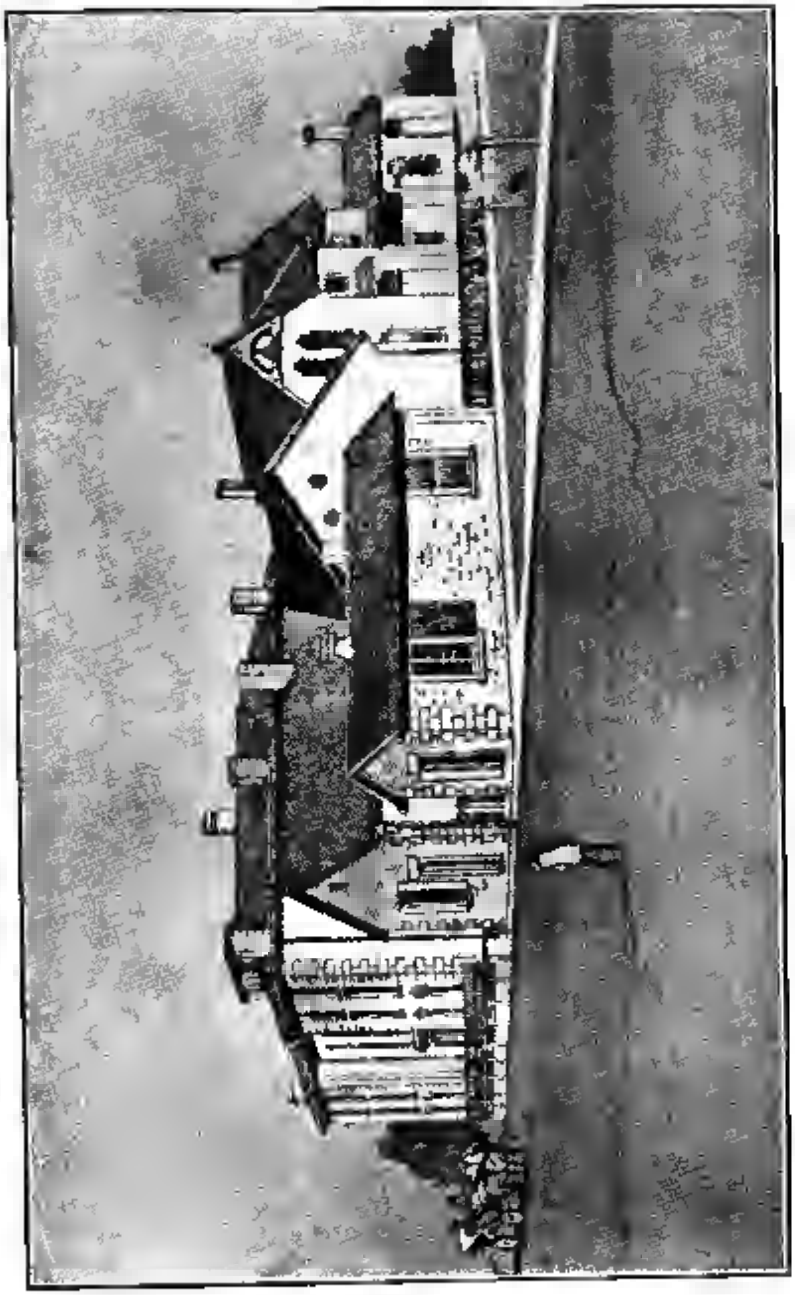
EARL OF DURHAM
GOV GEN OF CANADA 1838 1839

On the 30th September, 1853, the union between Essex and Lambton was dissolved by order of the Administrator in Council and on the 24th day of October, 1853, the first meeting of the County Council of the County of Lambton took place at Port Sarnia now Sarnia and from the 30th day of September, 1853, the County had the full status of a County Council

From the 15th day of April, 1852, to October 24th, 1853, the Warden was called Provisional Warden Mr Thomas Fisher, being the first to occupy that position during the year 1852 He was succeeded by Mr Henry Glass who was elected Provisional Warden in January, 1853, but, having been unseated, or having resigned, it is not clear which, his successful opponent in Sarnia Township, Mr Archibald Young, was elected Provisional Warden in June 1853 and held that office until 24th October, 1853 and from that date, until the election of his successor in January, 1854, held the office of Warden under the Act 13 and 14 Victoria (1850), Chapter 64, Section 12 He was succeeded in January, 1854 by his former opponent, Mr Henry Glass

The partial municipal independence, therefore, of Lambton dates from the year 1852, when it withdrew from its connection with Essex, for except County Council purposes and was formed into a 'Provisional County' Its full independence dates from 30th September 1853, when it became a complete County

By 16 Victoria, Chapter 152 (1853), the County of Lambton was formed into an electoral division (up to this time it was joined to Kent for Parliamentary purposes) to take effect after the end of the then present Provincial Parliament, which came into force at the general elections held in 1854



COURT HOUSE 1852 1912

Parliamentary Representatives

IT is only when one delves into the history of the County that it is discovered what a prominent place her sons and her representatives have held, not only locally but in provincial affairs Space forbids us (neither is it the aim of this book) to carry Biographical sketches, but it is questionable if there is any other county in the Dominion, that can show such a record especially one that has had as representatives or an official, two Prime Ministers of Canada, one prime minister of the Province of Ontario, and several Cabinet Ministers

The following is a list of Lambton s Representatives in the Dominion Parliament and Legislative Assembly, including the period when Lambton was united with Kent

Legislative Council

Hon George Jervis Goodhue 1842-1867
Hon Malcolm Cameron 1860-1863
Hon Alexander Vidal, 1863-1867

Legislative Assembly

Hon Malcolm Cameron 1848-1854-1858-1860
*Hon George Brown, 1851-1857
Hope Fleming Mackenzie, 1859-1861
*Hon Alexander Mackenzie 1861-1867
*Became Prime Minister of Canada

House of Commons

FOR COUNTY

Hon Alexander Mackenzie

WEST RIDING

Hon James Frederick Lister, Q C 1882-1898
Dr Thomas G Johnston 1898-1905
Frederick Forsyth Pardee, K C , 1905-1921
Richard Vryling LeSueur, 1921-

EAST RIDING

John H Fairbank 1882-1887
George Moncrief 1887-1896
John Fraser, 1896-1900
Oliver Simmons 1900-1903
Joseph E Armstrong, 1904-1921
Bert Fancher, 1921-

Legislative Assembly—Ontario

FOR COUNTY

Hon Timothy Blair Pardee, Q C, 1867 1875

WEST LAMBTON

xHon Timothy Blair Pardee, Q C, 1875-1889
Charles Mackenzie, 1890-1894
Alfred T Gurd 1894-1898
Frederick Forsyth Pardee, K C, 1898-1902
xHon William John Hanna, K C, 1902-1918
Jonah Moorehouse Webster, 1919 1923
Wilfrid Smith Haney, 1923-
xOccupied position of Cabinet Ministers

EAST LAMBTON

Peter Graham, 1875-1890
Hugh Mackenzie 1890-1893
Peter D McCallum 1893 1898
Henry John Pettypiece, 1898-1905
Hugh Montgomery 1905-1908
Robert John McCormick 1908 1914
Dr John Burton Martyn, 1914-1919
Leslie Oke, 1919-

Senators

Hon Alexander Vidal, 1873 1906
xHon George William Ross 1907 1914
Hon Frederick Forsythe Pardee, 1922-
xPrime Minister of Ontario.

Names and Places

ABERARDER

This little village is located on Lot 8, Con. 10, Township of Plympton, being a station on the Canadian National Railway twenty miles from Sarnia and five from Camlachie. It was settled in 1868 by Alex. Hamilton. The first post office was established there in 1863 with D. McBean as first postmaster. It was so called after Aberarder in Scotland. It no longer operates as a post office, being closed with the coming of rural mail delivery.

ABERFELDY

A post office situated on Townline of Brooke and Euphemia Townships, more correctly on lot 34, concession 6, Euphemia. It was so named by Wm. Armstrong, for many years clerk of Euphemia Township, after a place in Scotland. John Grant was the first postmaster. It is one of the few rural post offices still operating.

ALVINSTON

A village situate on the Canada Southern Railway, or what is now known as the Michgian Central Railway. It is distant about 35 miles from Sarnia, and about 10 miles almost due south from Watford, and is in the Township of Brooke. It has a poulation of some 800 souls, and is pleasantly situated in the centre of a fine agricultural district, peopled by exceedingly thrifty families.

The history of Alvinston dates back to a period prior to 1839, when one Archibald Gardiner, uncle of the Gardiner Brothers, Hardware Merchants, of Sarnia, established a saw mill on the east side of Bear Creek, operating it until, with the Mormon migration, he went to Nauvoo, Illinois. At this time the place was known as Gardiner's Mill. Later on mills were built on the west side of the river and operated by a Mr. J. W. Brennan, and the place for some time was called Brennan's Mills. Following this period, the little village was named Alvinston. The best information that can be obtained is that it was so named after a village on the Isle of Wight called Alverstone. Just why it was changed to Alvinston is not apparent. In its early days Alvinston was only a postal village on the travelled postal road which ran from Watford to Florence, and its mail service was supplied from this source.

Alvinston still remains a thriving village, with well-kept business places, comfortable homes, and fine churches.

ARKONA

This history of the settlement of Arkona dates from 1821. During that year, Asa Townsend located on a tract of three hundred and ninety acres of land, which he obtained from the Government.

COURT HOUSE 1912

As early as 1859, the territory hereabout had become so thickly settled as to assume somewhat the appearance of a village. In 1876 it was created a village.

It is one of the most pleasantly situated villages in Lambton County, it is close to the Aux Sauble River and the beautiful spot known as Rock Glen, which is later described in this booklet.

Prior to 1850 it was known as Eastman's Corners. About this date an agitation arose to have the name changed, (it now being on the proposed line of the G. T. R.). A public meeting was called and from many suggested names Arkona was selected. If our information is correct it was named after Akron, Ohio, but the party suggesting the name spelled it A-r-k-o-n-a, and when the proper spelling was discovered the people preferred the name as given, Arkona. The first postmaster was Joseph Hilborn, and the first post office opened in 1851. While not situated on the railroad, (the first survey being changed to run some 6 miles north), it is a very thriving village, surrounded as it is by a good farming and fruit country.

ATKIN

Rural post office opened at Lot 34, Con. 2, Euphemia, in 1897. So named after the first postmaster, Richard Atkin. It passed with the coming of rural mail delivery.

AUGHRIM

A rural post office, first opened at what was known as Lower Aughrim, in the Township of Euphemia. The first postmaster was Andrew Bell, and was named after Anghrim in Ireland. The post office was later removed to the home of John McKune, reeve of the township of Brooke, which lay farther north. As a post office it passed out with the opening of the Aberfeldy office. At Lower Aughrim the Anglican Church alone remains to claim the name.

AUX SAUBLES

The name of the river bounding the north eastern portion of Lambton County and flowing into Lake Huron at Grand Bend. The name means "The River of Sands". The scenery along the banks of this river at some points is very picturesque and at no place more so than around Arkona.

AVONROY

A post office situated on Lot 16, Con. 14, Sombra Township. Peter Grant was first postmaster, and the office bore its name from the farm on which Mr. Grant was born in Invernesshire, Scotland. It also ceased to operate with the introduction of rural mail delivery.

BABY'S POINT

The extreme south westerly portion of the Township of Sombra, so named after the Baby family, who early settled there.

BEAVER MEADOW.

A post office opened in 1900 at the head of Booth Creek, Lot 25, Con 1, Township of Dawn so named by Wm Nesbitt, from the beaver dams built there First postmaster, Delbert Young It no longer operates a a post office

BEECHER

Situated on the north branch of the Sydenham River, Lot 18, Concession 7, Township of Sombra First opened as a post office about 1865 and named by the Postal Department after Henry C R Beecher, a gentleman who owned considerable land in the County

A store, the Orange Hall and Anglican Church, today comprise the village It is still operated as a post office, having two rural routes and distribution. Beecher's mail service is delivered from Wallaceburg

BENTPATH

A post office opened on Lot 21, Con 4 Township of Dawn, about 1898, named after a path in Scotland John McLachlan was the first postmaster

BICKFORD

A post office opened at Watson Station on the Pere Marquette Railway, named after Mr E O Bickford, one of the officials of the old Erie & Huron Railway, the Postal Department declining the name of Watson, there being another post office bearing that name in Canada

BIRNHAM

A post office situate Lot 19 Con 5, N E R Township of Warwick supposed to be named after a small place in Scotland A Gaelic word meaning "Hero's House"

BIRKHALL

A post office located on Lot 7, Con 6 Moore Township, with John McKenzie as postmaster It passed out with the opening of Seckerton It owes its name to English origin

BLACKWELL

A station on the Canadian National Railway, seven miles east of Sarnia Is called after Thomas E Blackwell, an Englishman He was by profession a civil engineer, became Managing Director of the Grand Trunk Railway and from 1857 to 1862, the General Manager of that Railway in Canada

BLUE POINT

A somewhat pronounced point on Lake Huron, situate opposite Lot 37, Front Concession Plympton Township On old marine charts it was known as Point Harris Probably bears its name from the high banks of blue clay that extend out into the lake at this point

BOSANQUET

Occupies a more northerly position than any other portion of Lambton It is one of the east tier Townships and is isolated in its position by its bordering Lake Huron on the north west It reduces in width and reaches a mere point at the northern extremity Bosanquet contains about seventy-five thousand acres including two Indian Reserves, on the shore of Lake Huron, aggregating about six thousand acres The first settlers in Bosanquet Township arrived about 1833

For the greater part the township is rich and fertile, though having some waste portions as it nears the northern apex It's shore line makes a beautiful drive from Kettle Point to Port Frank the sands of the beach being so firm as to make a beautiful roadway It was named after Mr Charles Bosanquet, who was the first President of the Canada Company, which Company owned a goodly portion of this Township It's population in 1921 was twenty three hundred and thirty-two

BRADSHAW

A post office opened at Lot 26, Con 15, Township of Sombra The first postmaster was Wm Bradshaw, after whom it was named, not now operating

BREWSTER

The name at one time borne by the Lambton section of Grand Bend, called after a Mr Brewster a mill owner at the point It operated for some time as a post office

BRIGDEN

A thriving police village in the Township of Moore, situate on the M C R So named after John Brigden, one of the Canada Southern Railway engineers, who surveyed the road It has several good stores, churches and a thrifty population of about three hundred and is the centre of a thriving agricultural district

BROOKE

This township was named after Sir James Brooke, whose exploits from 1837 to 1847 in establishing a British Protectorate in a portion of Borneo, made him the popular hero of the day The township was surveyed by Samuel Smith in 1832 and opened for sale in the latter part of 1833, a very large portion of it being taken up by the United Empire Loyalists

It is one of the eastern tier of townships Its soil, generally speaking is clay loam and with ditching and proper drainage, has become one of the most productive townships in Ontario The main branch of the Sydenham river commonly known as Bear Creek traverses in an uneven course the south east corner of the township, and several branches of the same meander through the whole eastern half, the western portion being free from streams

REGISTRY OFFICE 1904

It's homes schools, churches and general appearance denote thrift and plenty

Brooke has an area of 74,049 acres and its population by the 1921 census was 2703

BUNYAN.

A post office situate on the Second Concession of Sarnia Township It was opened about 1875 at the residence of Ebenezer Watson, a pioneer of this township who settled there in 1836 Mr Watson became the first postmaster This settlement was largely of the Baptist faith, Mr Watson being a Baptist and named it Bunyan after John Bunyan famous as the author of "Pilgrim's Progress" A Baptist Church still bears the name Bunyan, though the post office is no longer operating

BURNS

Situate at the corner of the 12th Concession of Moore and 18th sideroad Burns Presbyterian Church is known the countryside over It was so named after the Rev William Burns, who established and opened the church Mr Burns was one of the first Professors of Knox College

CAIRO

A village in the Township of Euphemia Until recent years it bore the name Sutherland's Corners after the Sutherland family The length of this name caused a petition to be sent to the Postal Department for a change of name Cairo was the name finally given probably after Cairo Egypt or Cairo Missouri, just which is not made clear in the records before us

CAMLACHIE

A small village in the Township of Plympton, on the C N R, some twenty miles from Sarnia It was founded by one Duncan McDonald in 1862 and named after his birth place in Scotland now a ward or part of the City of Glasgow

This village contains three churches, several stores and many cosy comfortable homes and caters splendidly to the needs of a thrifty community

CHEMATAGON

A point in the St Clair River This is called by navigators "Jimmie Tagan" it is a small channel separating Squirrel Island from Walpole Island it empties nearly at right angles to the waters of the St Clair River and is very winding In Indian tongue, it means a stream that runs away from another This you will see is very appropriate

CHARLEMONT

A post office in the Township of Sombra, named after a barracks in Ireland. The first postmaster was Andrew Brown. Like most other rural post offices it no longer operates, but a general store still bears the name and marks the place where the post office first opened.

COLINVILLE

Lot 14, Con. 9, Moore Township, opened as a post office about 1840 and continued until the coming of rural mail delivery. So named after Colin McDermott, an early settler and at one time mail carrier.

COPLESTON

The name given to the post office operating in the village of Marthaville, there being another post office bearing the name Marthaville in Canada. To avoid confusion, the postal department gave the name Copleston. The property on which Marthaville now stands was owned by Richard Smith, who surveyed it into village lots. He was an Englishman and a builder by trade, and when a name was asked for the post office, he suggested Copple-stone which, reduced to Copleston, was accepted.

COREY

A station and post office on M. C. R. just south of Petrolia. Named after Harrison Corey, a prominent oil man of Petrolia. It no longer operates as a post office, but is a way station of the above road.

CORUNNA

A delightfully situated village in the township of Moore and on the St. Clair River, six miles from Sarnia. It bears its name from the battle fought and won by Sir John Moore. In recent years it has developed as a summer resort, and is the summer home of many. Opposite it is Stag Island.

COURTRIGHT

A thriving village of some five hundred people, six miles below Corunna, and also on the St. Clair River. It was named after Milton Courtright, president of the then Canada Southern Railroad.

It has several good business places, fine churches and cosy homes. Its chief industry is manufacture of salt, a large plant operating the year round. It, like its neighbor, Corunna, is a summer resort.

CROMAR

A post office, Lot 4, Con. 3, Moore Township. The first postmaster was John Watson, son of Jas. Watson, clerk for years of Moore Township. It was named after a place in Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

CUTHBERT

A post office situato on Lot 30, Con 2, Dawn Township, opened about 1890 First postmaster Alex Cuthbertson, and named after him.

DAWN

One of the Townships comprising the County of Lambton being in the southern tier of townships The early records show this township was first known as "Arigantimosa," an Indian word probably better known by the Indians as "Argamosa" and meaning "walking with snow shoes"

Of the adoption of Dawn as a name, two solutions are offered In "Gardiner's Book," (of nothing but names) he hints that it refers to the dawn of liberty for the escaped negro slaves who were settled on a portion of this land about 1820 by a party by the name of King The other theory as to the name is that the Government surveyor a commencing their work at the St Clair River and working back through what is now the Township of Sombra into the interior, after passing great dense forests which almost excluded the light, they came upon some higher and open ground and named it the "Dawn'

Dawn was originally heavily wooded with elm and ash, and much lumbering was carried on These days have passed and fine, well-cleared and well improved farms comprise the township It's population in 1921 was 2470 and has an acreage of sixty-five thousand, five hundred and seventeen acres

DAWN CENTRE

Now called Rutherford, prior to the formation of the Gore of Camden this point was the centre of the Township Bears its name from the Township

DAWN VALLEY

A post office opened at Lot 20, Con 1 Dawn It passed out with the coming of rural mail First postmaster Hugh Dunlop, opened about 1890 This point, too, bears its name from the Township

DUTHILL

A post office at Lot 12, Con 9, Sombra named after the Parish of Duthill, Invernesshire, Scotland A church was built here in 1880 and it was then the name was first introduced, and applied to the post office which was opened a few years later

EDYS MILLS

A village in Dawn Township About 1887 one Melvin Lotteridge built a customs saw mill at this point It was financed by two brothers named Edy of London The enterprise not proving successful, it passed into the hands of the Edy Brothers who enlarged the mill, it finally passing to the stave firm of Sutherland & Innis,

COUNTY BUILDINGS 1967

of Chatham, who operated it as long as the timber lasted. At one time it had about 200 residents, today a store, school, church and two or three houses comprise the village.

A spur line of the M. C. R. extends from Oil Springs to Edys. It was named after the Edy Brothers.

ENNISKILLEN

The central township of the County of Lambton, named after a town in Ireland, but to the Canadians the name is more familiar from the memory of the famous charge of the Enniskillen Guards and the Scotch Greys at the Battle of Balaclava.

In point of area, it is one of the largest townships in the County. For years it was the centre of the oil producing territory and agriculture was only a secondary pursuit. It was in this township that rock oil was first discovered in Canada, but in recent years it has made rapid strides in agriculture and is given over now almost entirely to grain-raising and grazing. Its population in 1921 was three thousand and sixty-three, and an acreage of about eighty-two thousand acres.

EGREMONT

The name borne by a road running from a point a few miles west of Camlachie to London.

When Lord Egremont, an Englishman, brought to this country a colony of settlers, arriving at London, Ontario, from that point west to Lake Huron he found no road save only an Indian trail. This trail was followed, chopping it out and building a passable road as they moved along. This road from Warwick east to London, is now the main highway over which thousands of tourists pass annually. It has from the date of the above settlement until the present, retained its original name, Egremont.

ERROL

With the coming of the above settlers a town site was laid out on the shores of Lake Huron, of no mean pretentions. The plans filed in the County Registry Office show streets and avenues covering many acres, but the dreams of these early pioneers failed to be realized as it never attained much size. It was, however, for years a post office, serving the people as far north as Kettle Point. The first post office was opened in 1840, a Mr. Toulman being the first postmaster. He was followed by Thos. Laing, who in turn was succeeded by George Whiting. A graveyard today is practically the only remaining reminder of this dream city.

It is interesting to note that the first newspaper published in this county was printed in this village. It was called "The Sammel."

Erol was named after a small village on the Firth of Tay, Scotland.

EUPHEMIA

The most south easterly township of the County, and in point of acreage, the smallest, containing thirty-nine thousand, six hundred acres of land.

The Sydenham River enters the township at its extreme north at Aberfeldy, and winds easterly and south until it emerges from the Township at Florence. All this western portion of the township is very fertile land. It is essentially and strictly an agricultural community. The lands of the eastern and southern portion are inclined to be sandy loam, the surface being more or less undulated, while to the north and west a general flatness distinguishes the topography, and the soil being much heavier. The western portion is splendidly adapted for grain growing, while the eastern portion is more adapted for grazing and fruit growing.

The township was set apart from Zone about 1848, but the original survey of the township was performed in 1822 by Samuel Smith. The first settler in the township was David Fancher, in 1825. The township was named after Mrs. Euphemia Cameron, mother of the Honourable Malcolm Cameron, who at that time represented the district in the Baldwin-Lafontaine Government.

Euphemia is a Greek word meaning "good language"—"audience"—"praise."

The Dominion census of 1921 gives its population as 1521.

FANCHER

The name given to an old road cut out from Newbury to Florence, winding its way across the entire Township of Euphemia and for a goodly portion of that way following or being adjacent to a creek bearing the same name.

The road and creek bear their name from an early settler, one David Fancher, who settled there in 1822 and he was largely responsible for the building of the road.

The descendants of David Fancher still reside in Euphemia, a great grandson, B. W. Fancher being the member of Parliament for East Lambton at the present time.

The word Fancher is of French origin.

FAWN ISLAND

A small Canadian Island lying just below Sombra village in the St. Clair River. It is about one-half the area of Stag Island, is more or less wooded, but has never been developed as a summering place, for which purpose both its situation and beauty would well lend itself. This island was also a deer resort, and gets it name from fawn, or young deer. It was for years known as Woodtick Island.

FLORENCE

A pleasant little village on the Sydenham river in the Township of Euphemia, some 8 miles from Bothwell on the C. N. R., from

which point it receives its mail

Colonel George R. Kirby was the first postmaster of this centre, then known as Zone Mills appointed January 6th, 1840, but with the formation of Lambton County and the setting apart of Euphemia as a township, the name Zone Mills was changed to Victoria after the late Queen, but continual confusion in mail of Victoria and Vittoria, a village in Norfolk County, the name was again changed to Florence, after a place of the same name in Italy.

FOREST

A town on the Canadian National Railway some 26 miles from Sarnia and about 5 miles from Lake Huron, incorporated as a town in 1888. It is surrounded by a rich farming district and is a thriving centre, with well ordered stores, fine homes, well appointed public buildings, schools and churches.

The name Forest was conferred on a station here by the Railway authorities from the fact of its having been located in a dense bush, and the people were so well pleased with the name that in response to their petition it was conferred upon the Post Office which was opened the same year, 1859, with Robert Dyer as postmaster. It was incorporated as a town in 1888.

It has the advantages of being close to Kettle Point and other

LAMBTON COUNTY EXPORT APPLES

summering points on Lake Huron The census of 1921 gives its population as 1422

FROOMFIELD

A pretty little summer resort 5 miles south of Sarnia on the St Clair River It was first settled by the building of a mill on the little creek emptying into the river at this point, by two brothers named Talfourd The christian names of these two brothers were Froom and Field and the combined names give the village its name The name Talfourd was given to the Creek flowing into the St. Clair at this point

GARVILLE

A post office opened at Lot 19, Con 5, Township of Dawn, with George Boyle as postmaster Named after a post office in Scotland called Garv It operated until rural mail service was established

GLEN RAE

So called after one John Rae who built and operated a stave mill at this point situated on the M C R 4 miles east of Oil City A store and post office remain to mark the spot Opened about 1888 with L A Riley as first postmaster

GRAND BEND

At this point the Aux Sable enters Lake Huron, after a bend of great length and from this the name was given the settlement To day, particularly in the summer months, it is a busy place, being a summering spot of no mean pretensions many cottages, dance halls and three hotels indicate its popularity It lies partly in the County of Lambton and partly in Huron County The Lambton side of this village was formerly called Brewster

Grand Bend might well be called the watering-place of all that interior portion of Western Ontario within a radius reachable by auto

HALE

A post office opened at Lot 30, Con 12 Dawn Township in 1890 First postmaster John Hale from whom it bore its name

HEATHER

A post office on the 7th Con Brooke, near east boundary opened in 1889 with Donald McIntyre as first postmaster, so named from the heather plant so dear to every Scotchman, and this was distinctly a Scotch settlement

HENRY'S CORNER

Post Office in Sombra so named after Warren T Henry and Nathaniel Henry who came here from about Kingston Mr Henry was first postmaster

HILLSBOROUGH

The name borne today by that hilly part of the shore of Lake Huron, lying just at the north west corner of Plympton township It is more or less of a summer resort and in common with many other points of this shore line is very pleasing to the eye At one time a post office was opened here probably about 1865, with Thomas Hill as first postmaster from whom it bears its name

HOLMESDALE

At one time a stave mill village on the M C R, three miles east of Oil City called after Mr Holmes of the firm of Holmes, Moore and Courtright

INWOOD

The only surviving village in Lambton County that sprung up as a result of the lumbering and stave mills It is now the centre of a good agriculture district and is a fairly busy village Contrary to the accepted belief that it obtained its name by reason of being built up in the centre of a dense wooded district it was really named by C H Moore, one of the members of the stave mill firm, after a pretty town on the Hudson River, New York State

IPPERWASH

The name given to the Beach lying along the shore of Lake Huron between Kettle Point and Stoney Point Many cottages of the summer colony are here, and in summer months presents a gala scene The drive on the sands of the beach at this point can be followed for some miles and is one of the most pleasant to be found anywhere As far as can be ascertained the name has no historic meaning, but means "upper wash '

JERICHO

A post office located on Lot 14 Concession 8, Township of Bosanquet and bears its name from the Bible reference to the place near Jerusalem It is about 2 miles south and west of Thedford and was expected to be the station point on the Grand Trunk Railway instead of Thedford, it being on a high ridge but difficulty over securing the land for the station site was located where Thedford now stands

JURA

A post office opened at Lot 4 Con 8, Bosanquet Township in 1866, with James McCordie as first postmaster, and called after one of the Hebride Islands

KERTCH

At one time a post office on Lot 26 Con 5 (London Road) but has not operated for some time This post office was opened short-

ly after the close of the Crimean war and was no doubt called after Kertch, a strait separating Crimea from the mainland

KETTLE POINT

A point seven miles almost due north from Forest on Lake Huron, and so named from the peculiar formation of stone found imbedded in the shale These stones are perfectly rounded vary ing in size from probably a foot in diameter to many times that size Geologists and scientists have so far failed to explain this seeming freak of nature

Another peculiar formation on the shore line at this place is the appearance of the shale which forms the banks Its regularity in shapes of long oblong blocks, give it the appearance of modern mason work

The Kettle Point Reservation occupies the land lying along this portion of the lake, covering an area of two thousand one hundred acres

KIMBALL

A post office and station on the M C R, Moore Township, named after James Kimball the first postmaster, and proprietor

MOONLIGHT ON LAKE HURON OFF KETTLE POINT

of the store, when the Canada Southern Railway was built It has at the present writing two stores and is a thrifty hamlet

KINNAIRD

A post office opened at Lot 12 Concession 11, Bosanquet, and named after a village near Dundee in Scotland, of the same name, and means 'at the head of the height' It operated for a number of years but is now closed

KINGSCOURT

Arthur J Kingston, County Longford, Ireland, was the owner of a large tract of land in Warwick Township developing what is known as the Ellarton Salt Plant and later constructed a tram way to intersect the then Grand Trunk Railway Mr Kingston's Estate in Ireland, was known as Kingscourt and the Railroad in compliment to him, gave the Junction the name

LADYSMITH

A post office opened at Lot 22, Con 2, Moore, about the time of the relief of Ladysmith in the South African war A Mr Coyle was the first postmaster It of course bore its name from Ladysmith South Africa

LAKE SMITH

A small lake situate in the Township of Bosanquet, between Thedford and Grand Bend in close proximity to what is known as the Klondike Road It has no importance other than being a mecca for duck shooting in season

LAMBTON CELERY GARDENS

No history of Lambton would be complete that did not mention this area Many acres of extremely fertile land having been reclaimed by the drainage system between Thedford and Port Frank was found to be wonderfully adapted for celery growing and has developed into a real industry, many car loads of choicest celery being shipped from Thedford annually from these fields The sight as one drives through these gardens during the summer months is pleasing to the eye, and at the same time a revelation

LANGBANK

A post office situated on Lot 21, Con 11, Township of Dawn, named after the native place in Scotland of Mr J C Wood This post office was opened in 1890 with Mr J C Wood as first postmaster

LOGIERAIT

A post office opened at the house of David Hossia, 12th Concession Moore, in 1863 named after a town in Scotland Mr Hossie was first postmaster It passed out as a post office on the introduction of rural mail service

LUCASVILLE

Practically every visitor to Sarnia, prior to 1910, will recall this place. Situated on the Plank Road, some four miles from Sarnia. For many years it boasted a hotel, school house and church. It was named after George Lucas. The church and school remain to mark the corner which became so well known through its hostelry. This place, at one time, was a post office, with George Lucas as first postmaster.

MANDAUMIN

A station and post office on the C. N. R., 7 miles from Sarnia, opened at the time of the building of the above named road.

The story of the naming of this place is interesting. The Government requested Malcolm Cameron, then Representative of this district, to name the post office. He gave it the name of Radcliffe, probably after an Anglican missionary labouring in this section. This locality was, even in those days, fairly settled, and the settlement objected to the name as given, calling a meeting at which Mr. Cameron was present. Some re-arrangement of political lines was in progress at headquarters. Mr. Cameron had been cartooned as a 'coon' up a tree looking which side to come down. The name "stuck' and he was referred to as "Coon Cameron" for years. He took the nickname jocularly and at this meeting agreed to change the name, saying: "we will give the coon something to eat, we will give the name Mandaumin," which is the Indian for corn or maize. The name was adopted.

MARTHAVILLE

A village in Enniskillen Township on the Twelfth Concession, in the heart of the oil district. Our information is that one of the early operators, Thomas by name, a mill man, named it after his wife, whose name was Martha. Its close proximity to Petrolia, (some three miles) has prevented its growing beyond the hamlet stage. The post office at this point is Copleston.

McCREADY

A post office opened on Lot 30, Con. 9, Euphemia, in 1880. So called after James McCready, for many years Reeve of the Township. Duncan Ross was later postmaster for some eighteen years.

MOORE

The central of the western or St. Clair range of townships. The north branch of the Sydenham pursues its crooked way across its south east corner, but besides this there are no streams other than dry creeks which run very short distances inland at right angles to the St. Clair, into which they flow.

The earliest settlement of the county was along the St. Clair front and the present name of the township was given in honour of the celebrated British General, Sir John Moore, who fell on the

bloody field of Corunna, just prior to the surveying of this township.

"No useless coffin inclosed his breast,
Nor in sheet, nor in shroud we wound him,
But he lay like a warrior taking his rest,
With his martial cloak around him"

It is a well-improved area with practically no waste land, has good roads and fine homes.

It is populated by thrifty contented people, mostly engaged in practical farming. Its population in 1921 was three thousand, six hundred and eleven, and covers an area comprising seventy-two thousand two hundred and fifty-seven acres.

MOORETOWN

A village of Moore Township, deriving its name from the same source as the township. It is seven miles from Sarnia and two miles from Courtright, on the St. Clair River. It overlooks the River St. Clair, has the usual places of business, churches and schools found in a small village and a population of about one hundred.

MOSSIDE

A post office in Euphemia Township, opened about 1885, with James McCabe as postmaster. So called after Mosley, a place near Sligo, Ireland.

NAUVOO

The main road from Alvinston to Watford. So named after Nauvoo in the state of Illinois. About 1840 a mormon preacher named John Borrowman, came from the East. In and around Gardiner's Mills, now Alvinston, he secured several converts to that faith; whether from objection taken to this faith or for some other reasons, these mormon converts decided to go to Nauvoo Ill. and the line of their 'trek' to the London Road was the road above mentioned and it has borne the name 'Nauvoo' ever since. It is one of the pleasant driveways of Lambton County.

OAKDALE

A post office located on lot 25, Con. 13, Dawn Township, opened in 1890. The first postmaster was Alex. McDougall. Named after the growth of oak in this district. The post office is gone but a store remains to claim the name.

OBAN

A post office opened on Lot 3, Con. 5, Plympton. The first postmaster was a Mr. Brown. Named after a place in Scotland.

OGEMAH

An Indian word meaning "Chief" and the name borne by a post office opened in 1877 about three miles further north than Errol on the lake shore road with T R K Scott, one of the pioneer settlers, as postmaster Mr Scott was succeeded in 1882 by George Symington, as postmaster

An interesting feature in connection with all these lake shore post offices in these early days was, their mail service was given by two men named Church and Haskell, who travelled on horseback from Sarnia to Bayfield leaving and collecting the mail as they came and went

OIL CITY

A station on the Canada Southern or M C R two miles north of Oil Springs It obtained its name from the oil boom and the quantity of oil found there At that time it was a busy village, but has now but two stores, a post office and a few residences

OIL SPRINGS

Probably incorporated as a village in 1865, prior to that it was known as Black Creek, owing to the black oil (petroleum) that seped from the soil and found its way to this creek Wm Harrison, J P was the first postmaster It is today the centre of a good community of farmers, and a thrifty village.

Its population in 1921 is given as 490 In 1866, at the height of its oil boom, it had a population of over 3000 At this time it had twelve large general stores 9 hotels and every other equipment usually found in a town where fortunes were made and lost in a day

There are still many oil wells operated here and considerable oil obtained

OSBORNE

A post office opend about 1875, at the corner of lot seven, concession twelve Moore Township with Alex Lamont as post master, and later, on Mr Lamont's removal, Wm L Gardiner became postmaster In all probability it was named after the favorite castle of the late Queen Victoria, "Osborne Castle' on the Isle of Wight A church and school house still remain in the Osborne district The post office no longer operates

OSSIAN

A post office opened on Lot 1, Con 8, Moore Township George McPherson, a warden at one time of Lambton County, was first patmaster and gave it the name Ossian taken from the Scotch poet, McPherson's Poems

PARDEE

A post office opened at Lot 30, Concession 6, Sombra, about the year 1910 with James Babcock as first postmaster It was only in operation for a short time, for rural mail delivery following close-

ly upon its opening, it was closed Senator F F Pardee was at this time the Representative of West Lambton and it bore his name.

PAYNE

A post office located on the farm of Joseph Payne, Lot 24, Con 8, Moore Township Named after Mr. J. Payne

PERCH

A name given to a stream flowing through Sarnia Township and emptying into Lake Huron about ten miles above Point Edward The name is also borne by a way station on the Canadian National Railway near this stream

Perch derives its name from the French (River Aux Perches), and was no doubt given by the early French explorers

PETROLIA

As may be judged it owes not only its name but subsequent development to the discovery and profitable production of petroleum or rock oil. It was about 1861 that oil was first discovered here but it was not until 1866 that its development really started for the reason that prior to this wells had been put down at Oil Springs and as it was there obtained by natural flow consequently being less expensive to operate, this territory was developed and it was only when the natural flow ceased about 1866, that the Petrolia field was again returned to, and the Oil Springs field for the time practically abandoned Inasmuch as all crude oil had to be teamed to Wyoming, the nearest railway point, and the haul from Petrolia was the shorter and for some time following this Petrolia and vicinity was the scene of the great oil activity of Canada and Oil Springs as a town, began its rapid decline

Today the oil supply of this territory has greatly decreased and the bustle of old days is no more, still it is a thriving centre supplying the needs of a splendid farming community Its population in 1921 was 3148 It derived its name from the source that caused its birth, petroleum, and was named in 1861 by Patrick Barclay, the first postmaster

PINE HILL

At one time a little village lying a mile or two from the present Village of Thedford and named after the growth of pine on this elevation The post office at this point was called Widder

At one time a saw mill was operated there by Edward Proctor, who afterwards became Registrar of Deeds for Lambton County

PLYMPTON

Plympton is the most northern of the centre tier of Lambton County townships and is bounded on the north by a portion of Bosanquet and on the north west by Lake Huron

WHERE LAMBTON'S PIONEER PRODUCT "PETROLEUM" IS MANUFACTURED

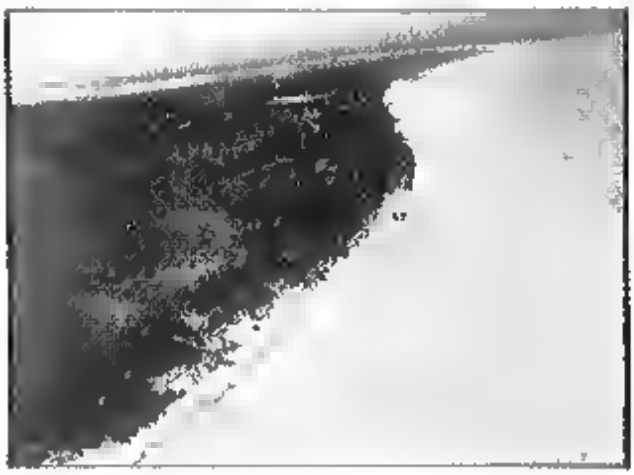
It is the second largest township in the county, having 76080 acres The settlement of Plympton dates back from 1833 in which year a large number of immigrants located along the Egremont Road in the 5th and 6th Concessions They came out from Europe under the patronage of Lord Egremont. There was also a settlement at Camlachie the same year The land there was settled in 1833 by old countryment and in 1835 and 36 a considerable number of Scotch settlers came to the southern part of the township from Lanark county When the settlement was effected along the lake there was no way of communicating with Sarnia, then a straggling hamlet containing only one store, except by boats on the lake

Plympton was named after a town in Devonshire, England, on the Plym River, near which was 'Beechwood' the beautiful home of Sir John Colborne, Governor of Canada, when Plympton was surveyed

It will be seen that it is one of the oldest townships in Lambton and today is a splendid agricultural district peopled by a thrifty, contented industrious people Its population in 1921 was two thousand eight hundred and twenty-nine

POINT EDWARD

This municipality, at one time called "Huron" entered upon its corporate existence only with the beginning of the year 1879 It is situated in the extreme north west corner of Lambton County where the waters of Lake Huron flow into the St Clair River and at one time was the Canadian terminus of the then Grand Trunk Railway As would be surmised, during this period, it was exclusively a railroad town, and at one time had a population of over two thousand, but when the Grand Trunk removed their round



Aeroplane View of Lake Huron Shore near Sarnia

house to Sarnia, after the opening of the St Clair Tunnel the railway men and their families removed to Sarnia and Point Edward lost largely in population, and for some time was a very quiet village but latterly has revived and is today a place of some 1253 souls

A large stone cutting plant is located here and is also the shipping point of the Northern Navigation fleet of boats In the summer months its water front is a hive of industry not only from the above source but at this point the ore docks of the Steel Compsny of Canada are located, and all ore is transhipped from the boats at these docks by rail to their plant at Hamilton

Point Edward was for years called Huron Village but following the visit of Albert Edward Prince of Wales later King Edward VII of England it took on the name of Point Edward

If our records are correct, the first actual settler at this point was John P. Slocum from New York State who came in the year 1838

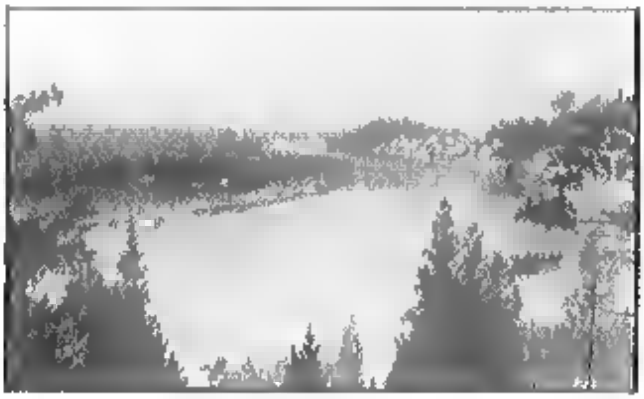
PORT FRANK

A pleasant summer resort situated on Lake Huron just above Stoney Point It has a hotel, a store and many summer homes and splendid bathing facilities and in summer months has quite a population

It was named after Charles Frank, vice-president of the Canada Company in 1835, which Company owned the land along the lake

PORT LAMBTON

A village in Sombra Township and beautifully situated on the St Clair river 25 miles south from Sarnia It received its name in common with the County from Lord Durham's English Estate It has many summer homes and is a port of call for the Detroit passenger steamers



The Aux Sauble River Port Frank

RAVENSWOOD

A post office first opened at lot 61, L R E, Bosanquet, in 1853 John Rawlings being the first postmaster. Later it was removed to lot 55, L R E. It was named after a place mentioned in Sir Walter Scott's poems, yet an old settler states this post office was named from the fact that in the days when this shore line was densely wooded with pine the crows and ravens infested these woods feeding on the carrion fish in the bay, and the woods was then known as Crow's Wood or Ravenswood. It may be this was the source of the name.

ROCK GLEN

The name borne by one of the beauty spots of Lambton County, situate on the Aux Sauble River near Arkona.

The river at this point winds its way between high hills densely wooded with its primeval growth of timber and with the waters rushing over the dam constructed here lends a scene many tourists go miles to gaze upon.

At this point Hydro power is developed and lights the adjoining village and furnishes power to the mills and plants in the vicinity.

ROKEBY

A post office opened in 1890 at lot twenty five, concession nine, Broke Township with Archibald Campbell as first postmaster. Mr Campbell died in 1891 and his wife Mrs Margaret Campbell, became post mistress and remained as such until with rural mail service the post office was closed. Named after one of Sir Walter Scott's poems, 'Rokeby.'

RUTHERFORD

Originally called Dawn Centre, named after a Scotch Clergyman, Samuel Rutherford. It is a small village at the junction of 15 sideroad and the 7th concession of Dawn. The Township Hall is located there as well as two stores, a mill, two churches and many comfortable homes.

SARNIA

The history of Sarnia and vicinty begins with the coming of the first white man, LaRoche Daillon, a Recollett missionary, who visited the Attiwandaron Indians in 1627. These Indians were afterwards called by the French 'The Neutrals,' and occupied many villages in Western Ontario. One of these villages, called "St Francis," by the French missionaries was situated a few miles from Sarnia.

The first white man to pass down the Sainte Claire River, earlier known as the 'Otusisippi" (meaning 'clear water') was Joliet (a native-born Canadian) about the year 1669. The river was named St. Clair by Father Hennipen in 1670. He was storm

bound at the foot of Lake Huron, then known as "Karegnondi," by the Neutrals and as 'Canatara" by the Iroquois and he tells us that there were then three mouths to the river Point Edward was known as Petagwano and as late as 1770 two channels were still open

In 1686, Duluth founded Fort "Saint Joseph" at the foot of Lake Huron on the Canadian side and thirteen years before the founding of Detroit A few years before this LaSalle sailed up the Sainte Claire in a boat which he had constructed above Niagara Falls

In 1829 the Township of Sarnia was surveyed by the Government and a memo in the notes of the surveyor Roswell Mount states that on the LaForge farm, where the present postoffice now stands, there was an orchard at least seventy five years old and stumps of an older orchard, from which he concluded that the farm had been occupied for one hundred and twenty-five years

Sarnia was first called "The Rapids," and while as far back as 1835 a town site was surveyed at Corunna four miles below this city, with the intention of making it the county seat, later development established The Rapids' (Sarnia) as the county town At this date there were forty-four taxpayers in the village there being nine frame houses, four log houses, two brick houses, two

One of the Plants Where Lambton County's Proud "Salt of Manufactured

taverns and two stores Previous to this time the inhabitants had become convinced that a change in the name of the village was necessary, and with a pitiful lack of imagination, the English favored the name "Buenos Ayres," and the Scotch "New Glasgow" In 1835, Sir John Colborne, who had been governor of the Island of Guernsey and then governor of Upper Canada paid a visit to the Village and at his suggestion, at a village meeting the name "Port Sarnia" was formally adopted, Sarnia having been the Roman name for the Island of Guernsey

Sir John Colborne reached the height of military fame, when as Colonel of the 52nd, one of the regiments comprising the Light Brigade, he charged and broke Napoleon's Old Guard Line at Waterloo This feat is generally regarded as the turning point of the battle

In 1890 Sarnia and Port Huron, Mich., were connected with a tunnel under the Sainte Claire River, and at this time, the town became known as "Sarnia Tunnel" In the last few years however the word "Tunnel" was officially dropped and the city has since been known as, simply Sarnia

Steamship and Railway lines give Sarnia easy transportation facilities to all parts of Canada and the United States.

SARNIA RESERVE

Comprises in the neighborhood of four thousand acres in the Township of Sarnia lying immediately south of Sarnia City's southern boundary, and fronting on the St Clair river The Indians are Chippewas and number about 280

This reservation is gradually diminishig in size, portions being surrendered from time to time to industrial plants

SARNIA TOWNSHIP

Sarnia Township bears its name from the same source as that of the County Town namely the Roman name for the Island of Guernsey which was given this section of the county by Sir John Colborne Its western boundary lying on the St Clair River probably accounts for this township being the earliest settled part of Western Canada While the Anglo-Saxons began their settlements in this locality in the early thirties yet there had been a French settlement where Sarnia now stands, a century and a half prior to this The first municipal organization of the township took place in 1836

Today Sarnia Township is one of the best developed in the county The district lying adjacent to the City of Sarnia is divided up into small farms for market gardening, for which its soil is wonderfully adapted and the products of these farms find ready markets in the city and northern ports

The township was surveyed in 1829 by one Rosswell Mount, and its population in 1921 was 2583 Its area covers about thirty-nine thousand acres

SECKERTON

A post effice epened some years ago on Lot 18, Concession 6, Moore, with Thomas Johnston as first postmaster The post effice was moved frequently within the next few years, its first removal being to Lot 13, Concession 7 where William Gray was postmaster Frem there it was meved to Lot 21 Cencessien 7, with D Larouv as postmaster and later te Let 20, Concession 7, with Emanuel Edwards as postmaster

The name ef this post office was given by the Postal Department. Just why is not apparent

An interesting feature in connection with it is that the salary ef the first postmaster was twelve dollars per year

SHETLAND

Originally known as Dobbyn s Mills, but en the epening ef a post office there, with Jehn Drew as postmaster, it was named Shetland by the Postal Department, after the Shetland Islands The post effice no longer eperates, but a stere, schoel church flour mill and several homes comprise the village It is situate on Lot 24, Cen 2, Euphemia Tewnship, and clese by the Sydenham river

SOMBRA TOWNSHIP

Sombra Township occupies the south westerly cerner of Lambton Ceunty and was so named by the surveyors frem the Spanish word 'sembre' mesning shade

The above surveyers finding it densely wooded to such an extent as to almost exclude the light ef day, hence the name

Its first municipal organizatien dates in the year 1822 At that time it was united with the Tewnship of Dover in the County ef Kent In 1826 Sombra withdrew frem Dever and St Clair Township, cemprising the present Sombra and Moore as well as Walpole Island became a township Later on it separated from Meore and became a separate Township It was left with an acreage ef seventy-twe thousand acres

In the early days it was a reserve peopled by the Shawanese Indians The Sydenham river (north branch) traverses the township from nerth te south Fer many years owing to the lack of drainage, this township was slew in development, but in later years it has wenderfully developed into a fine agricultural area peopled by a hardy industrious population, numbering in 1921, three theusand two hundred and seventy-four souls

SOMBRA VILLAGE

A village ef the township ef the same name, situate en the St Clair River, 6 miles nerth of Pert Lambton It's name is syneny meus with that of the township It is a thrifty, pleasant village of seme 250 people cennected by a ferry service with Marine City in the U S and this pepulatien is greatly increased in warmer

months by those seeking a pleasaut summer resort. It is a station on the Pere Marquette Railroad

SQUIRREL ISLAND

A small island separated from Walpole Islaud by the Chematagon Channel, and lying at the south of Walpole and is practically a part of this island, being under the same Indian Council It is also peopled solely by Indians.

STAG ISLAND

Isle-aux-Serfs—which, on being interpreted from the French, reads Isle of Stags, hence the name Stag Island. In early days our records show, it was a rendezvous for deer, and many interesting tales are related relative to hunting on this island by early explorers and settlers

It comprises some two hundred acres, the eastern side of which is beautifully wooded, while the western side is cleared

A spacious dancing pavilion, summer hotel and numerous cottages are built along its eastern shore line and the constant passing up and down of steamers together with its natural surroundings make it a very pleasant spot for a summer outing

While apparently in mid stream of the St Clair River, it yet belongs to Canada It lies immediately opposite the Village of Corunna

STONEY POINT

A point projecting itself into the waters of Lake Huron, a short distance above Kettle Point and so called from its stoney surface The Stoney Point reservation of Chippewa Indians, numbering about forty, occupy the twenty-five hundred and ninety acres lying adjacent to this point

SCENE ON RIVER ST CLAIR NEAR STAG ISLAND

SUTORVILLE

A post office situated on Lot 14, Concession 13, Township of Brooke opened in 1891 The first post master was James Davis and the post office bore its name from a Mr Sutor who owned and operated a stave mill there for some years

The post office has passed out of existence and an Anglican church alone remains to mark the place which at one time had one or two stores and a stave mill operating

SYDENHAM

A river the two branches of which with their tributaries, meander over the greater part of the centre and southern portion of Lambton County furnishing practically the natural outlet for this section of the county

The southern branch takes its rise in Warwick Township flowing southward where it is joined by Bear Creek which enters the County about the centre of Brooke Township's eastern boundary From there it flows south and east, entering Euphemia Township s northern boundary about the centre wanders in a south easterly course across this township into the Township of Dawn emerging from the county at the south eastern corner of this last mentioned township It then follows a winding course across the county of Kent joining the northern branch at Wallaceburg

The northern branch of this river also finds its source in the township of Warwick, and joined by other numerous streams or creeks lying in the territory adjacent to the town line between Enniskillen and Moore, flows southward being swollen by many other little rivulets including Black Creek or Bear Creek until as it reaches Wilkesport Sombra Township it has assumed the proportion of a real river From there on it flows south and west into the county of Kent and joins the south branch as above stated at Wallaceburg The now united streams form the parent river which from this point follows on in its ever varying course, eventually emptying its waters into Lake St Clair From the lake as far as Wallaceburg the river is navigable for moderate sized vessels, and both branches for further distances for small craft

The river was named after Charles Edward Poulett-Thompson, Governor-General of Canada in 1839 and whose landed title in England was Lord Sydenham

SYKESTON

A post office on Lot 7, Con 10, Moore, first postmaster Robert Heal Named Sykeston by Robert Fleck after the Sykes family who settled in this township some of whom are still resident in Moore

THEDFORD

A thriving village situate on the Canadian National Railway some thirty-five miles east of Sarnia and lying in the Township of Bosanquet

Nelson Southworth a native of the State of Vermont gave to the Railway officials the station site the condition being he was to have the privilege of naming the station Thedford after a place of that name in Vermont This village of some 524 souls is the centre of a well developed fruit area Its places of business are well kept and supply the needs of a thrifty community

SUTORVILLE

A post office situated on Lot 14, Concession 13, Township of Brooke opened in 1891 The first post master was James Davis and the post office bore its name from a Mr Sutor who owned and operated a stave mill there for some years

The post office has passed out of existence and an Anglican church alone remains to mark the place which at one time had one or two stores and a stave mill operating

SYDENHAM

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SYKESTON

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TANCRED

A post office situate on Lot 16, Con 2, Brooke Township, opened in 1890 and named by the Department after a character in Scott's novel 'The Talisman" The first postmaster was Angus McKinlay

TERMINUS

A post office opened in Sombra township on lot 19 con 8 No record of why it was so named appears It passed out with the coming of rural mail delivery Alex Gibson was first postmaster

THORNYHURST

A post office situate on lot 6, con 8, Sombra Township named after Walter Thornyhurst, an early settler of the neighborhood He was also first postmaster It too, has ceased to exist as a post office

UTTOXETER

A small village and for years a post office on 24th sideroad Plympton A blacksmith shop, church orange hall and a few residences today comprise the village It was named by Thos Doherty one of the residents when the post office was opened, given its name after a place in England

VYNER

A post office situste on lot one concession nine, Sarnia Township about 1867 with John Gates as first postmaster, and who held the position as long as it operated, being almost forty years It is reputed to be named after an English family by name Vyner

Aerolane View of St. Clair River Between Sarnia and Port Huron

WALPOLE

The name given to the large Island separated from Lambton County by the Snyearte River It has an area of 40,480 acres and its population of 738 is composed of 568 Chippewas and 170 Pottawatamies

It would appear that the scattered Indian of the Chippewa tribe, at the close of the war of 1912-14 were placed on this Island The Pottawatamies coming from the United States about 1841 and by permission of the Government allowed to settle on this Island It is difficult to arrive at the naming of the Island but the best deduction is that it was named after Lt Arthur Walpole, or Lt John Walpole or probably both These two men having been engaged in surveying this part of Canada for some time

The Island itself is still to a large extent wooded, though some farming is carried on On a map of Upper Canada West, compiled in 1838 the present Walpole Island bears the name of St Mary s Island

WALNUT

A post office on Lot 15, Con 9 Township of Brooke opened in 1877 with Isaac Ayers as first postmaster and so called from the growth of Walnut timber in that locality

WANSTEAD

A small village on the C N R some seventeen miles east of Sarnia. This village was surveyed by E R Jones, Land Surveyor, in 1858 and filed in the Registry Office by Henry C R Beecher the then owner of the land ,in 1859 It remains a station on the C N R, has one store, church and a population of about one hundred

Wanstead, in all probability, was named after a suburban village of London England This village dates back to the time of the Saxons and means Woden s Place

WARWICK

One of the eastern tier of townships of Lambton County named after one of the Inland counties of England Both branches of the Sydenham river take their rise in this township The surface of the township is in great part almost entirely level, though much of it approaches the gently undulating, varying as in other townships of the county to the comparatively level flat lands in the vicinity of the water courses

Its soil is very fertile and well adapted for agricultural pursuits The survey of the township took place in 1832 Peter Carl being the engineer who accomplished it, and the earliest settlement within its limits was effected during the same year It is comprised of about seventy thousand acres

Its first school, and the first church in the township was built in Warwick Village, the former in 1840, and the latter, the Episcopal church, (still standing) in 1843

Today this township presents a scene pleasing to the eye A scene of fine farms and homesteads which show the industry and thrift of its people Taken as a whole township, it ranks with the first in the Province In 1921 its population was two thousand, three hundred and seventy-six

WARWICK VILLAGE

A village in the Township of Warwick At one time it was quite a centre of the farming community, but not being on the railroad it has rather diminished in population It is prettily located on the Egremont road, some 24 miles from Sarnia.

WATFORD

A thriving village in the Township of Warwick, on the C. N. R. 30 miles distant from Sarnia, surrounded by a splendid farming district.

In 1853 one Richard Brown opened a store where Watford now stands It was known as Brown's corners The next year, 1854 he was appointed postmaster of the post office now being opened and Brown's Corners was named Watford after a place in England Its homes, places of business and public buildings would be a credit to larger centres than Watford

WATSON

A station on the Pere Marquette, some sixteen miles from Sarnia named after W H Watson, the then Deputy Reeve of Sombra, who had taken a prominent part in securing the bonus given to the Erie & Huron Railroad Co This Company being the original owners of the present Pere Marquette

GARDENING SCENE—LAMBTON COUNTY

WAUBUNO

A post office opened on Lot 13, Con 2, Moore Township with Thomas Moore as first postmaster Later postmasters at this point were Thomas Capos, B D Varnum Mirza Overton and John Young Though the post office psased out with rural mail delivary, tho church, school and community is known as Waubuno. The word itself is of Indian origin, meaning 'tho dawn of day"

WAWANOSH

Until the putting through of the Cull drain, a large acreage in the northwest part of Sarnia Township was in whole or in part, covered with water This was known as Lake Wawanosh Tho draining of this section has given a large and fertile area over for market gardening

The word "Wawanosh' is from the Indian tongue meaning "one who sails carefully"

WEIDMAN

At ono timo a post office and station on the Canada Southern Railway east of Oil City One Paul Weidman opened a stave mill there in the days of lumbering It was named after Mr Weidman.

WHEELER

A post office opened at Lot 4 Con. 3, Enniskillon Township Named after the Wheeler family who were probably the first settlers in this part of tho township

WIDDER

This was the name given to Pine Hill post office in 1856 after Mr Widder who owned tho property there The postmaster was Utriek Chester

WIDDER STATION

This was the first name of the post office where Thedford now stands The post office was opened in 1862, with Robert Rae as postmaster The post offices of Widder and Widder Station were some miles spart

WILKESPORT

A village in Sombra Township on the Sydenham river some fourteen miles above Wallaceburg In the earlier days it was a great lumbering centre named after a Mr John Wilkes who operated in the timber trade at that time It still retains the business places of a small village

WILSONCROFT

A post office opened on Lot 26 Con 9 Enniskillon, called after a Mr Wilson at whose house it was held It ceased to operate with the coming of rural mail delivery

WISBEACH

A post office situate on Lot 28, Con 1, S E R, Warwick It was opened in 1854 First located on Lot 30 Con 1 S E R Mr Bowes was first postmaster and on his death Mrs Bowes received the appointment and held the position until the closing of the office It was named after a place called Wisbeach in England

WOODTICK ISLAND

Name formerly borne by Fawn Island, and so called from insect life that infested the island at one time

WYOMING.

A village, which by the 1921 census shows a population of 482 situate on the C. N R. some 14 miles east of Sarnia and north east from Petrolia 6 miles The word itself is derived from the Indian tongue and means "The Large Plains" In the State of Pennsylvania lies a town and valley named Wyoming, rendered famous from Campbell's beautiful poem, 'Gertrude of Wyoming," and as the early oil prospectors who came to Oil Springs "treked" their equipment from the site of the present Wyoming the most reasonable conclusion is they gave this point the name of their home town

ALONG LAKE HURON'S SHORE

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John-ton, A. T.
Lambton County names and places

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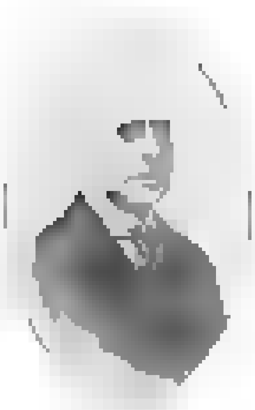

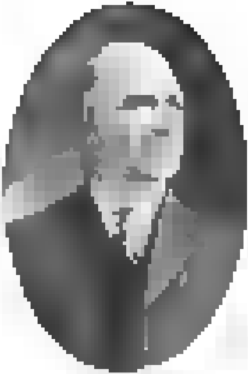

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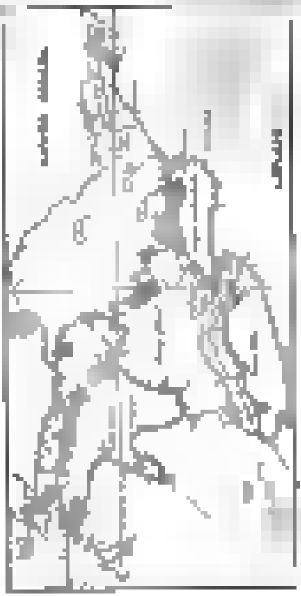

Hymns and Songs

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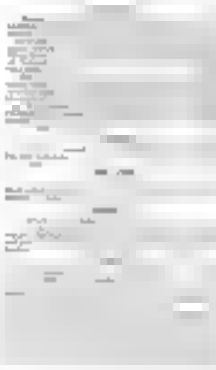

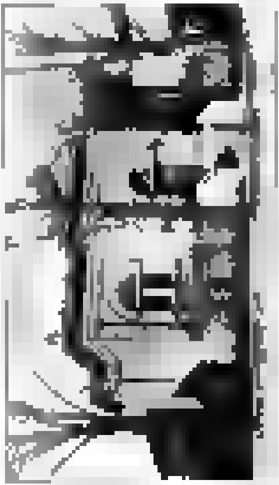

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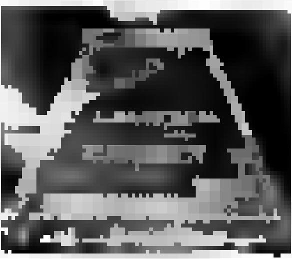

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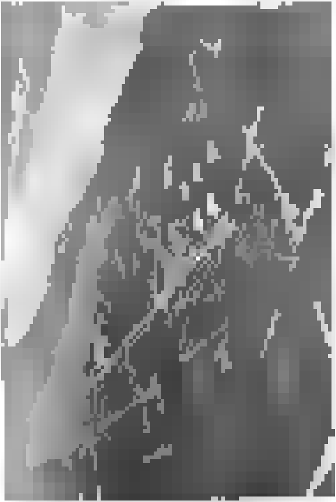

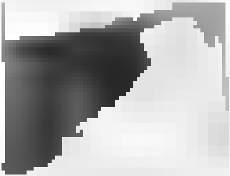

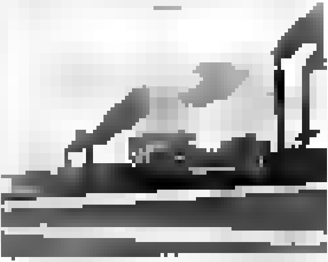

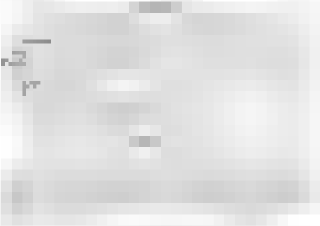

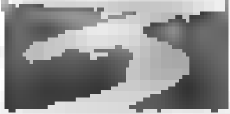

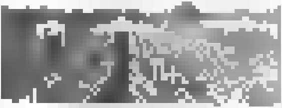

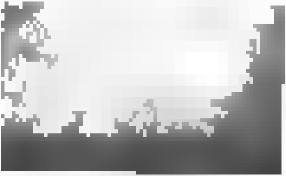
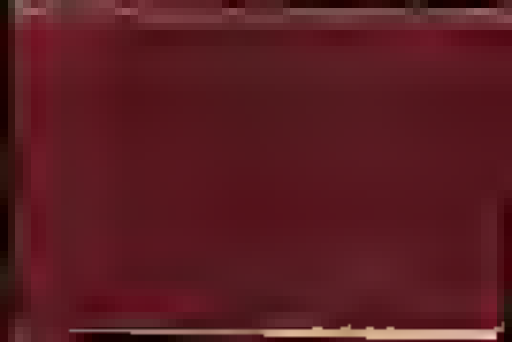
Algorithm 1
Learning theory
and practice